

ASPINALL'S ENAMEL.
NOTICE TO PHILANTHROPISTS AND
OTHERS.

M. HUSKIN SAYS.— "Worse men are none they
love bright colour, and whereas they
give them to us, we, flowers, and
living creatures."

M. D. H. SIMS SAYS.— "We want bright colour every-
where in this climate of ours;" and
M. ASPINALL SAYS.— "Here is bright colour. Here are
120 exquisitely-beautiful shades of
bright colour. Distribute these
brightest shades among your
workhouses, your asylums, your
workhouses, and make the brighter
and more brilliant for them the
rays of brightness or sunshines
thrown over the dull daily round, the
BOLD EVERYWHERE."

10/- The Post Free. 1/- per Month, 5/- per Year,
and 2/- per Month, 10/- per Year.

ASPINALL'S ENAMEL WORKS,
LONDON.

The People.

A Weekly Newspaper for All Classes.

ONE PENNY. [Registered at the
G.P.O. as a Newspaper.]

LONDON, SUNDAY, OCTOBER 12, 1890.

MILFORD LANE } STRAND.—No. 470

THIRD EDITION.
"THE PEOPLE" OFFICE.
Saturday Evening.

LATEST TELEGRAMS.

(DALESH'S TELEGRAMS.)
MISS MARY ANDERSON AND
A CRAZY LOVER.

EXTRAORDINARY AFFAIR.

NEW YORK, October 10.—Dr. George W. Lloyd, assistant-superintendent of the Flat-
bush Insane Asylum, Brooklyn, was mur-
dered last evening, at half-past five, by James
Doherty, until recently an inmate of the
asylum, and generally regarded as a harmless
and well-witted creature. Doherty is a man who
derived considerable notoriety some time ago
by his attentions to Miss Mary Anderson

(Mrs. Navarro), and has been known

in the newspapers, as that actress's

"crazy lover." His attentions were so

annoying that he was locked up in Flat-

bush Asylum, but being allowed a large de-

gree of liberty, he obtained two months ago

a false key, by means of which he

escaped. Little trouble was taken to

recover him, as he had not developed

homicidal tendencies, and he was fre-

quently seen walking in Broadway. On

September 25th he visited the asylum, where

he had an interview with Mr. Fleming, the

superintendent. He asked for his clothes,

and drawing a revolver, threatened to murder

Mr. Fleming if they were not given up to him.

He recovered his clothes and departed.

Nothing was seen of him until Thursday,

when he again called. Dr. Lloyd, the

assistant-superintendent, Dr. McGreal, Dr.

Ashford, and Mr. Schneider, a chemist, were

sitting in the public office of the asylum when

Doherty entered. They were surprised to see

him suddenly appear at the door with two

large revolvers, one in each hand. He asked

for Mr. Fleming, and appeared to be very

excited. Dr. Lloyd tried to soothe the

man, and, approaching him, said quite

calmly and coolly, while Doherty pointed

one of his revolvers at him: "You

ought to be ashamed of yourself to

want to hurt Dr. Fleming. Put your

pistol up." Doherty made no reply, but pulled

the trigger of the revolver and fired a bullet

into Mr. Lloyd's side. It went through his

heart, and the doctor fell dead. The others

rushed out, but Doherty made no attempt to

moisten them. Dr. McGreal ran nearly a mile before he found a policeman, Meantime

Doherty sauntered out, and Dr. Ashford, who

was waiting near the door, started to follow

the murderer. The latter turned round and

warned Ashford to keep back, or he would kill him. The doctor, nevertheless, continued to keep Doherty in sight along the

deserted road lying between the asylum and the busier Brooklyn streets. He finally reached a mill wagon and drove to a police station, where he gave the alarm. Ashford then drove on to the Brooklyn Bridge, as he thought Doherty was making for that point. He there notified the bridge policeman, who prepared to arrest Doherty, should he arrive there. It was not long before Doherty did arrive, and as he stepped upon the bridge Ashford tapped him on the shoulder. As the murderer turned to see who had touched him two policemen sprang upon him and bore him to the ground. He was instantly handcuffed and taken to the nearest police station, where he was lodged in the cells. Doherty told the police that he had intended to kill ten people, including Fleming. Since his escape Doherty has boarded at Smith and McNeill's Hotel, near Washington Market, in the dining-room of which he was in the habit of standing for hours before a picture of Mary Anderson. Several letters have been found, showing that Doherty did contemplate a series of murders and that he intended to commit suicide afterwards. He had written out directions for the disposal of his body and his personal effects, and he had sent a letter addressed to Miss Mary Anderson, care of the *Clipper* newspaper. In this letter he says: "My Mary, I must now bid you good-bye. I wish you all happiness. You are deeply wrong me, but I understand the extenuating conditions and freely forgive you. It is ever thus. I am hurt by those I love. You that I worship so much, should not hurt me so much. I have prayed to God for years to give me a mate, kind, beautiful, and good. If there be mating in Heaven I intend being awfully good to you. You are my heroine." The letter advises Miss Anderson to study spiritualism, and includes much incoherent rubbish. It is signed "Jimmy."—The general belief is that Doherty is another Guiteau. He once followed Mary Anderson over to Europe and was subsequently arrested in New York for annoying attentions to that lady. He is 35 years of age and has always been very eccentric in his manners and dress. The employee of Smith and McNeill's Hotel believe that Doherty is perfectly sane, except for his crazy admiration for Mary Anderson.

EXECUTION OF KEMMLER.

The OFFICIAL REPORT.

ALBANY (N.Y.), October 9.—The official report of Dr. McDonald, regarding the execution of Kemmler by electricity, to the Governor of the State is published. It is a very voluminous document, covering every incident of the execution. Dr. McDonald argues that Kemmler's death was instantaneous, and he says there was no evidence of bodily sensation between the first and second shocks. The intent and purpose of the law to effect a sudden and painless death was completely successful. The total time from the entrance of Kemmler to the instant when he was pronounced dead was eight minutes, and Dr. McDonald points out that hangings require from fifteen to thirty minutes. He suggests several minor amendments, including increased voltage, suitable to the prisoner's resistance, which should be previously ascertained. The result of this report will probably be that the law providing for death by electricity in this State will become permanent.

DESPERATE FIGHT WITH AN OUTLAW.

Demopolis (Ala.), October 9.—"Rube" Burrows, America's most notorious train robber, murderer, and outlaw, is dead. Rewards amounting to \$75,000 have been offered by different United States post roads and express companies for the cap-

ture of this man, dead or alive. As a result, detectives and deputy-sheriffs have been giving him hot chase, and last Tuesday Burrows was decoyed into a farmhouse occupied by negroes who were supposed to be friendly to him. He was invited to take dinner with them, and while seated at table, he was pounced upon by the negroes, who caught his arms, preventing him from drawing his pistol, and after a desperate fight, bore him to the ground. The captors then signalled to Deputy McDuffy and others, who were in readiness outside, and these men, rushing in, bound Burrows hand and foot. He was then thrown across a horse, strapped down, and carried to Linden Gaol, and shut up in the sheriff's office. McDuffy and a negro, named Marshall, guarded him all night. Burrows's money, amounting to \$17,000, was handed to Deputy-sheriff Carter, who slept in an adjoining room. Yesterday morning, at four o'clock, Burrows, said he was hungry. He persuaded McDuffy to give him a hand-bag which he had when captured, and he said contained some biscuits. He plunged his manacled hands into the bag, and took out some biscuits, which he ate. Putting his hands into the bag, for the second time, he pulled out two revolvers, which he instantly pointed at his two guards. Under pain of instant death, he forced the negro to unlock his handcuffs and untie the ropes which bound his feet. He then put the handcuffs on McDuffy, and, still covering the negro with his revolver, the outlaw opened the door and passed out. Leaving McDuffy a prisoner, Burrows compelled the negro to go into Carter's room and awaken him. Carter opened the door to see who was there, when Burrows put a pistol to his head and demanded the money which Carter had taken from him. The deputy recognised Burrows in the faint moonlight, and dashed back into the room. Seizing his pistols, he opened fire on the outlaw, who returned the shots rapidly, while he retreated. A crowd soon gathered, when Burrows was found lying in the street dead, Carter shot through the lungs, probably fatally, while the negro had a bullet in his shoulder, but will probably recover. Burrows was the leader of all the big train robberies carried out during the past ten years, and he killed during that period three sheriffs who attempted his capture. He also killed Chester Hughes, a passenger who showed fight at the time of a train robbery in December, 1888. The Southern Express Company have spent 25,000 dollars in their endeavours to capture Burrows.

A PARIS MYSTERY.

REPORTED REINSTATEMENT OF THE OLD GOVERNMENT.

BERN, October 11.—A despatch received

this morning from Bellinzona states that the Ultramontane Government which was ex-
pelled on the outbreak of the recent revolt

has now been reinstated, and that great ex-
citement prevails in the canton.

FUNERAL OF THE REV. H. WHITE.

The funeral of the late Rev. Henry White, of the Chapel Royal, Savoy, took place on Saturday afternoon, and was attended by a large number of the relatives and friends of the deceased. The chapel was crowded, and the scene was a most affecting one. The remains were afterwards conveyed to Brompton Cemetery, where the latter part of the service was performed.

FATAL FIRE.

Some workmen passing the house of Mrs. Bastin, Albion-street, Exmouth, about six o'clock on Saturday morning, observed smoke issuing from an upper window, and one of the men obtaining an entrance, found Mrs. Bastin in her bed-room, nearly suffocated by the smoke. She was taken to the Maud Hospital, but died on the way. Deceased was an elderly person of rather eccentric habits, generally rising at four o'clock to clean her windows, which she was seen to be doing that morning.

ACCIDENT AT A THEATRE.

The staircase leading to the gallery of the Theatre Royal at Coatebridge collapsed on Friday night, just as the audience occupying the greater part of his life in England. He

alleged that he had met the dead woman at

Amiens, that she was living in a condition of great poverty, and was suffering from some internal injury. He had, therefore, brought her to Paris, and placed her in the St. Denis Hospital, according to her wish. He believed that she belonged to a good family, and insisted that he is entirely ignorant of the manner in which she had received her injuries.

SEQUEL TO AN ELOPEMENT.

A DARING SWINDLE.

PARIS, October 9.—A mysterious case which

has just occurred at St. Denis Hospital is

now being investigated by the police. On

Monday night a man speaking French, with an English accent, brought to the hospital a

beautiful young woman, about twenty years of age, who was suffering from internal injuries. She was properly cared for by the doctors; but, in spite of every effort made in her behalf, she died the next morning without giving any explanation of the manner in which she had been hurt. The man, who called at the hospital after the woman's death, was arrested. He gave his name as Francois de Vigne, and stated that he was born at the Cape of Good Hope, but had passed the greater part of his life in England. He

alleged that he had met the dead woman at

Amiens, that she was living in a condition of

great poverty, and was suffering from some internal injury. He had, therefore, brought her to Paris, and placed her in the St. Denis Hospital, according to her wish. He believed that she belonged to a good family, and insisted that he is entirely ignorant of the manner in which she had received her injuries.

ATTACKED BY MASKED ROBBERS.

Mrs. Saunders, the widow of a veteran of

the Civil War, keeps a toll-gate five miles distant from Washington. On Friday evening two masked robbers entered the frame cottage, on the roadside, which is occupied by the woman, and, finding her alone, demanded money. She opened the door of her bazaar, on the pretence of getting what they required, but instead of doing so produced a revolver, and fired at the men. The robbers fled back at her, and altogether twelve shots were exchanged. Mrs. Saunders was found shot through the abdomen. The wound will probably prove fatal. A posse of sheriff's men are pursuing the robbers.

NAVIGATION OF THE ZAMBESI.

ALLEGED PORTUGUESE BLOCKADE.

LISBON, October 10.—A report, as yet un-
confirmed, is published here that Portuguese

gunboats have been formed in line across the

mouths of the Zambesi so as to bar the

passage and thus offer a passive resistance to

the British stern-wheel river boats should

the latest attempt to ascend the river.

A DETERMINED SUICIDE.

Daniel Holdaway, a carman, of Clifton-
street, Latimer-road, Notting Dale, delib-
erately tied a cord round his neck, fastened it

to the bedpost in his room, and then threw him-
self out of the window, where he was found

suspended and dead. At the inquest it was

stated that the poor man had been depressed

for sometime past, and had, as a witness said,

"been behaving in a very funny manner."—Suicide

of unsound mind was the verdict.

OSHEA V. O'SHEA AND PARnell.

The case of O'Shea v. O'Shea and Parnell

has secured the second place on the special

jury list in the Divorce Court. The trial

should, therefore, begin on or about the 17th

November, and is likely to last for ten days or a fortnight. It is stated that the declarations of 210 witnesses have been taken on behalf of the petitioner, who will be represented by a brilliant galaxy of forensic talent, including Sir Edward Clarke, Mr. Inderwick, Q.C., and Mr. Coward. It is not yet known what counsel will represent the respondent and co-respondent, nor whether the former has engaged another firm of solicitors in place of Messrs. Greenfield and Cracknell.

BREACH OF THE MUNICIPAL ELECTIONS ACT.

At the Edmonton Police Court on Thurs-
day, George Crossman was summoned for

several breaches of the Municipal Elections

Act.—Mr. Gill, for the public prosecutor, said

defendant went from house to house and filled

in some forty or fifty voting papers in an

election of members of the local board of health, in April last.—Defendant pleaded guilty, but said he acted in ignorance of the law.—He

was ordered to pay fines and costs amounting to £23 12s.—The money was paid immediately

by one of the candidates.

SERIOUS DYNAMITE EXPLOSION.

SAN FRANCISCO, October 9.—Details have

been received here of a terrible explosion

which took place ten days ago at the Rosario

Gold Mine, in San Diego county, California,

about seventy miles inland from Mazatlan.

An American, named McGee, and a gang of

nine Mexicans were at work in a 60ft. level,

near a magazine containing several hundred

weight of dynamite, when the magazine sud-

denly exploded, blowing the ten men almost

to atoms.

LORD ABERDEEN IN A RAILWAY ACCIDENT.

WINNIPEG, October 10.—A Canadian Pacific

express train, in which the Earl and Countess

(ALL RIGHTS RESERVED.)
**THE SHADOWS
AROUND US:**
 ACCREDITED NARRATIVES OF THE
 SUPERNATURAL.
 COMPILED BY
ARTHUR MORRISON.

XII.—THE HAUNTING OF
 WILLIAM MOIR.

A recent and a most completely attested case of a character allied to that of the matter of haunted houses is given below. The influence of place as suggesting the past to the human recipient is its noticeable feature, and many of the circumstances are of the most suggestive and significant character.

On the coast of Banffshire, Scotland, between the town of Banff itself and Portsoy, lies the parish of Boyndie. It is about a mile west of the fishing village of Whitehills, which, in its turn, is about two miles and a half west of Banff. In the parish of Boyndie stands the farmhouse of Upper Dallachy, the situation of grave, or evergreen, upon which became vacant in the early part of 1883.

It was about the middle of February when the new grave arrived. He was an Aberdeenshire man, from Monymusk; his name was William Moir, he was 31 years of age, and he brought with him a smiling young wife from his own parish. Boyndie and its district were quite strange to the Moirs, neither having left Aberdeenshire before taking up residence at Upper Dallachy.

William Moir was a good farmer, and things went well. Barley, oats, and potatoes the soil took very kindly to, and the crops were satisfactory. Intelligent, hard-working, and steady, the young Moir had the good opinion of everybody, and for some years nothing occurred to disturb his simple content at Dallachy. Had it been remembered that a mysterious murder had been committed fifty years ago at Moir's house, and, indeed, in the very room in which he now slept, the superstitious fancies of the neighbours would, no doubt, have conjured up something to agitate his mind or that of his wife. But the population of the district was sparse, and the affair of half a century ago had faded from the minds of most of its inhabitants. It was, nevertheless, a fact, and the victim was a man named Elder.

One night during Whit week in 1871, however, William Moir had what he described as a very forcible dream. At the outer boundary of the farm the ground sloped away to the seaside, and upon this sloping ground, about five or six yards from high water mark, was a small mound three yards in diameter, enclosed by a circle of stones. It was, in fact, the site and remains of a kiln used for burning seaweed to make kelp. There were other similar places in different parts of the beach. Kelp manufacture had less than a hundred years back been a flourishing industry in the neighbourhood, but since the discovery of processes of producing soda from salt it had declined, and the last kiln in the vicinity had been abandoned fifty years before.

William Moir's dream was this. He was walking from the farm grounds down toward the beach, passing near this mound, and he himself had long had this completely acquired, there now grew upon him a misty conviction of a stranger and earlier familiarity. Now and again his spirits would be freed from the incubus for some hours together, just as physical pain will leave a sick man for a time and then return. These blessed intervals, however, became fewer and fewer, and were enjoyed as a day's liberty would be enjoyed by a prisoner condemned to incarceration for life. But the mere entry into his bed-room or the sight of the mound was always sufficient to put an end to any such relief, and bring again the dreadful fancies in all their fulness. Every expedient which suggested itself to his wife she tried in order to win him from his broodings, but all were unsuccessful. What oppressed him he would never tell her nor anybody else—why he could never have said—he only felt himself powerless to impart his secret to others, —he simply could not. There seemed an indefinite horror in the idea of revealing to others the story of the dying corpse. So far along while nobody knew the reason of William Moir's depression but himself.

This went on for several months—in fact, till the latter part of January, 1872. That he bore up against the fearful conviction of impending insanity so long is a testimony to the strength of Moir's mental faculties.

On Wednesday, January 24th, while working in a remote part of the farm, the trouble, which had by this assumed the character of an actual and perceptible presence, temporarily left him—the first relief he had experienced for a long time. In the evening, however, on his approaching the bed-room, it, as usual, returned, if possible with greater force than ever. The next morning, while off the farm premises, he experienced another slight relief. After dinner, he was walking away from the house in the opposite direction to the seashore, when, with a shock as of a blow upon the head, back came the fear-filled idea, this time more an actual presence than ever, and with a sort of mesmeric power over him that compelled him to at once retreat his steps to the house. He entered, and, without speaking to or seeing anybody in the place, he took a spade and went toward the mound. The latter, being unable to communicate with her, had complained to the police, and an order from the Minister of Justice for her removal was obtained. She was found to be a mere skeleton, and her parents became half-crazed at the condition in which she was discovered. The nunnery has been closed and a strict investigation ordered by the governor of Naples. The facts of this extraordinary case are contained in a special despatch to the *Telegiograph*, which states that this matter is attracting widest attention in Naples. A later telegram states that the above report is exaggerated.

First a lower-jawbone; then shoulder-blades and ribs with many loose vertebrae; then the humerus of an arm; and, after that, the radius and ulna and all the bones of hand. He was digging up a skeleton.

Moir went to a hillock a little distance off and called to Lorimer, his cattle-man, who was pulling turnips in the next field. Lorimer came to him, and in his presence the grave proceeded to dig. The other arm, the pelvis, the leg-bones, and those of the feet were turned up, none covered by more than eighteen or twenty inches of soil, and there lay the skeleton complete. They covered it loosely with earth, and Moir set out for Whitehills to consult with Mr. Taylor, a tradesman of that village, in whose judgment he felt he could trust as to what to do in the matter.

He had scarcely begun his story when Police-inspector of Gregor came into the shop. To him Moir described his discovery of the skeleton, and with him returned to where it lay. The inspector examined some of the bones, and, as might be falling had them covered up. Next morning (Friday) he returned, and had the whole taken up, and carried away to be dealt with by the police authorities.

There was attached to the farm at Upper Dallachy a large old boat, which the men servants occasionally used by way of pastime, rowing to different parts of the coast—usually to Leven and there fishing. Moir's fits of brooding had so impressed his wife that she one day insisted on his taking an afternoon's holiday and taking the old boat out for a little fishing, thinking to provide some diversion for his extraordinarily depressed spirits. Accordingly, with little heart in the proceedings, and more by way of pleasing his wife than otherwise, he took the boat, with one of the hands as companion, and pulled off to Leven, turning just before evening, the two men observed, tossing about a little way from the shore, the dead body of the downed lunatic. Pulling toward it, Moir reached over and attached the corpse to the stern of the boat, then pulling ashore. It was now getting rapidly dusk as the two living men picked up the corpse between them to carry it up to Whitehills. They carried it up the beach, when suddenly there came upon the consciousness of Moir, with redoubled force, the remembrance of the dream; and, looking down, he found himself walking over the very spot on which his sleeping fancy had pictured the dead man's body. This, it struck him almost in the manner of a physical blow, was the interpretation of his dream; and, as if to complete the parallel, his companion behind stumbled over one of the stones, and letting go his hold of the body, in a moment it was lying exactly as Moir had seen the corpse of his dream lie; more, you taking a further look at the face, there was a broad

stain of blood covering one side of the

forehead, the eye, and part of the cheek on that side.

Although the face and the dress of the corpse were not altogether those of the dead man in his dream, Moir had no doubt that here, at last, he had arrived at the interpretation of it. It was a singular thing, this dream, he thought, to be so closely paralleled by fact; but now that he seemed to have got to the end of the matter he was glad; for now, he thought, he might reasonably expect that the haunting presence of the dream would leave him, and his spirits rose accordingly.

The body of the poor lunatic was left at Whitehills, and Moir, with a feeling of hope—though only a vague one—that his dream incubus might now be lifted from off his brain, returned to Dallachy. For some little time he was comparatively cheerful, and Mrs. Moir noted with inward satisfaction the improvement in his spirits. But he had scarcely entered the bedroom when the thought of the dream came again before him with almost more than its old impressiveness. All that night he tossed and tumbled in his bed, and to his disordered imagination there seemed a bloody-faced corpse in every corner of the dark room—and it was not the bloody-faced corpse which he had that day carried to Whitehills, but that of his dream.

He began to fear some failure of reason—some derangement in that mysterious organ, the brain. What was this vision of a dead man that would not leave him? He had wronged no dead man, and why this affliction? Deeper and deeper grew his belief that insanity was creeping upon him space. He grew dull, abstracted, and sullen; he no longer seemed the same man. Gradually through the months the circumstances surrounding the subject of his dream became vaguely present in his over-wrought mind. He was conscious of an indistinct feeling, as though he were, or had been, himself implicated in, or witness to, the murder which had laid that gory clay lifeless upon its hook. The bed-room began to wear a look of strange familiarity which was not the ordinary familiarity of a man's nightly sleeping apartment, but more the shadow of another by-gone and misty acquaintanceship of unremembered days. He had never in his life, he knew, been to Boyndie or, indeed, any part of Banffshire before coming to the farm; still, in addition to the ordinary familiarity which a man has with his house and which he himself had long since completely acquired, there now grew upon him a misty conviction of a stranger and earlier familiarity. Now and again his spirits would be freed from the incubus for some hours together, just as physical pain will leave a sick man for a time and then return. These blessed intervals, however, became fewer and fewer, and were enjoyed as a day's liberty would be enjoyed by a prisoner condemned to incarceration for life. But the mere entry into his bed-room or the sight of the mound was always sufficient to put an end to any such relief, and bring again the dreadful fancies in all their fulness.

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An extraordinary scene has been witnessed at Trowbridge arising out of the seizure of a cow, the property of a local farmer, for non-payment of tithe rent to the fellows of Winchester College. Several hundred people gathered at the place where the sale was announced to take place; but, contrary to expectation, the bailiff effected a sale by private treaty. The crowd became violent, and the bailiff was subjected to rough usage, his coat being torn from his back, and he had to seek police protection. An open-air meeting took place, when, on the motion of the Rev. E. Hall, president of the Baptist Assembly, who denounced violent proceedings, a resolution in favour of the nationalisation of tithes was passed.

A CONVENT OF INSANE NUNS. According to a Dalziel's telegram from Berlin, the mysterious nunnery, commonly called the "Nunery of the Buried Alive," at Naples, which has been closed against outsiders for four centuries, was opened the other day by order of the Minister of Justice. In spite of the strenuous opposition of the doorkeeper at the nunnery, the police entered by the windows. Sixteen nuns were found within in a state bordering upon insanity. They were covered with rags, and their surroundings were of the most filthy description. Many had forgotten how to speak, and the demeanour of all of them was more that of animals than human beings, but those who were induced to talk expressed themselves as perfectly resigned to their fate. The cause of the raid upon this nunnery was the desire of the parents of a young girl, who had entered the convent, to recover her. She had been banished to the nunnery on account of a love affair objectionable to her family. The latter, being unable to communicate with her, had complained to the police, and an order from the Minister of Justice for her removal was obtained. She was found to be a mere skeleton, and her parents became half-crazed at the condition in which she was discovered. The nunnery has been closed and a strict investigation ordered by the governor of Naples. The facts of this extraordinary case are contained in a special despatch to the *Telegiograph*, which states that this matter is attracting widest attention in Naples. A later telegram states that the above report is exaggerated.

CHARLES D. WATER.—The shrub is the English verb; eat it back in March, it will break from the old wood. If you decide to remove it, I should recommend you to leave it a year longer, dig a trench and cutting some of the roots in the meantime, then burn it down during the present autumn.

W. H. STANLEY.—You can employ any solicitor.

O. T. C.—A sixpenny stamp would apparently suffice. You can place it on.

Q. T. J.—Yes. 2. Yes. 3. He made him, and responsible by taking them over in that condition. 4. Yes. 5. Certainly not; the conditions assuredly lose the case and be paid in costs.

W. G. STONE.—Unless it is a formal and stamped deed of gift, it is valuable to protect the goods against your creditors.

A. H. S.—Yes. 2. No. 3.

X. C. W.—The original. 2. After death.

3. A copy can be obtained; the cost varies in proportion to length.

VERITAS.—Both trustees are liable.

H. M. ROBINSON.—Quite legal.

B. C. E.—Not in England.

L. C. W.—We can't say to whom you should apply. You should have looked after the property a year or two.

R. ROBERTS.—1. Yes. 2. None.

BARNES.—The stipendary you mention is not likely to have been wrong in law.

P. H. RICHARDSON.—I require, I believe, but you have to pay the fee at the Island Revenue Office, Somerset House.

CAMPBELL.—Either before or afterwards.

PLYMOUTH.—It appears to be a case of attempted extortion. We strongly recommend you to place the matter in the hands of a responsible solicitor.

W. B. STANLEY.—You can employ any solicitor.

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B. C. E.—Not in England.

L. C. W.—We can't say to whom you should apply. You should have looked after the property a year or two.

R. ROBERTS.—1. Yes. 2. None.

BARNES.—The stipendary you mention is not likely to have been wrong in law.

P. H. RICHARDSON.—I require, I believe, but you have to pay the fee at the Island Revenue Office, Somerset House.

CAMPBELL.—Either before or afterwards.

PLYMOUTH.—It appears to be a case of attempted extortion. We strongly recommend you to place the matter in the hands of a responsible solicitor.

W. B. STANLEY.—You can employ any solicitor.

O. T. C.—A sixpenny stamp would apparently suffice. You can place it on.

Q. T. J.—Yes. 2. Yes. 3. He made him, and responsible by taking them over in that condition. 4. Yes. 5. Certainly not; the conditions assuredly lose the case and be paid in costs.

W. G. STONE.—Unless it is a formal and stamped deed of gift, it is valuable to protect the goods against your creditors.

A. H. S.—Yes. 2. No. 3.

X. C. W.—The original. 2. After death.

3. A copy can be obtained; the cost varies in proportion to length.

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(ALL RIGHTS RESERVED.)

THE SNAKE'S PASS.

BY BRAM STOKER, M.A.

CHAPTER XIII.

ROG-FISHING AND SCHOOLING.

In the morning early we drove over. We left Andy, as usual, in the boren at the foot of the hill, and walked up together. I left Dick at Murdock's gate, and then hurried as fast as my legs could carry me to Joyce's.

Norah must have had wonderful care. She heard my footsteps in the lane, and when I arrived at the gate she was there to meet me. She said, "Good morning," shyly, as we shook hands.

For an instant she evidently feared that I was going to kiss her, there in the open where some one might see; but almost as quickly she realised that she was safe no far, and we went up to the cottage together. Then came my reward, for, when the door was closed she put her arms round my neck as I took her in my arms, and our lips met in a sweet, long kiss. Our happiness was complete.

Any one who has not the girl he loved the day after his engagement to her can explain why or how—if any explanation is required.

Joyce was away in the fields. We sat hand in hand, and talked for a good while, but I took no note of time.

Suddenly Norah looked up. "Hush!" she said, "there is a step in the boren; it is your friend Mr. Sutherland." We sat just a little further apart, and let go hands. Then the gate clicked, and even I heard Dick's steps as he quickly approached. He knocked at the door; we both called out "Come in" simultaneously, and then looked at each other and blushed. The door opened and Dick entered. He was very pale, but in a couple of seconds his pallor passed away. He greeted Norah cordially, and she sweetly bade him welcome; then he turned to me:

"I am very sorry to disturb you, old fellow, but would you mind coming down to Murdock's for a bit?" There is some work which I wish you to give me a hand with."

I started up and took my hat, whispered good-bye to Norah, and went with him. She did not come to the door; but from the gate I looked back and saw her sweet face peeping through the diamond pane of the lattice.

"What is it, Dick?" I asked, as we went down the lane.

"A new start to-day. Murdock really thinks we have got on the track of something. He went into Galway

for a big grapple; and now we are making an effort to lift it—whatever it is—out of the bog."

"By Jove!" said I, "things are getting close."

Dick stood up with a look of disgust on his handsome face.

"Come away, Art; it's too terrible to see a man degraded to this pitch. Leave the wretched alone with his god!" Murdock turned to us, and said with savage glee:

"No, shay! Shay an' see me treasure! It'll make ye happy to think of after! An' ye can tell Phelim Joyce what I found in me own land what I tak from him."

We stayed.

Murdock took his spade and began to remove the flith and rubbish from the mass. And in a very few moments his discovery proclaimed itself.

There lay before us a rusty iron gun-carriage! This was what we had dragged with so much effort from the bottom of the bog, and beside it Murdock sat down with a scowl of black disappointment.

"Come away!" said Dick. "Poor devil, pity him! It is hard to find even a god of that kind worthless!"

And so we turned and left. Murdock sat beside the gun-carriage and the spade with a look of baffled grief which I hope never to see on any face again.

We went to a brook at the foot of the hill, Andy being by this time in the shebeen about half a mile off. There we cleansed ourselves as well as we could from the hideous slime and filth of the bog, and then walked to the top of the hill to let the breeze freshen us up a bit if possible. After we had been there for a while, Dick said:

"Now, Art, you had better run back to the cottage. Miss Joyce will be wondering what has become of you all this time, and may be frightened."

It was so strange to hear her—Norah, my—called "Miss Joyce," that I could not help smiling, and blushing whilst I smiled. Dick noticed and guessed the cause. He laid his hand on my shoulder, and said:

"You will hear it often, old lad. I am the only one of all your friends privileged to hear of her by the name you knew her at first. She goes now into your class and amongst your own circle; and, by George! she will grace it too—it or any circle—and they will naturally give to her folk the same measure of courtesy that they mete to each other. She is Miss Joyce—until she shall be Mrs. Arthur Severn!"

What a delicious thrill the very thought sent through me!

I went up to the cottage, and on entering found Norah still alone. She

knew that I was under promise not to tell anything of Murdock's proceedings, but noticing that I was not so tidy as before—for my cleansing at the brook was a very imperfect one—went quietly and got a basin with hot water, soap, and a towel and clothes brush, and said I must come back. After a pause, she said to me, with a gathering blush:

"I want to ask you something."

"And I want to ask you something," said I. "Norah, dear! there is one thing I want much to ask you."

She seemed to suspect or guess what I was driving at, for she said:

"You must let me ask mine first."

"No, no!" I replied. "You must answer me; and then, you know, you will have the right to ask what you like."

"But I do not want any right."

"Then it will be all the more pleasant to me to give a favour—if there be any way that he would prefer that suits your wishes—it shall be."

Masculine persistence triumphed

now and more obstinate resistance. I could not account for it. Dick cried out:

"It is under the roots of the bog; we must now take it up straight. Can you bear me—my very own?" When shall we be married?"

The love-light was sweet in her eyes as she answered me with a blush that made perfect the smile on her lips:

"Nay! You should have let me ask my question first."

"Why so, dearest?"

"Because, dear, I am thinking of the future. You know, Arthur, that I love you, and that whatever you wish I would and shall gladly do; but you must think for me too. I am only a peasant girl."

"Peasant!" I laughed. "Norah, you are the best lady I have ever seen! Why, you are like a queen—what a queen ought to be!"

"I am proud and happy, Arthur, that you think so, but still I am only a peasant. Look at me—at my dress. Yes! I know you like it, and I shall always prize it because it found favour in your eyes!" She smiled happily, but went on:

"Dear, I am speaking very truly. My life and surroundings are not yours. You are lifting me to a higher grade in life, Arthur, and I want to be worthy of it and of you. I do not want any of your family or your friends to pity you and say, 'Poor fellow, he has made a sad mistake.' Look at her manners—she is not of us. I could not bear to hear or to know that such was said—that any one should have to pity the man I love, and to have that pity because of me. Arthur, it would break my heart!"

As she spoke the tears welled up in the deep dark eyes and rolled unchecked down her cheeks. I caught her to my breast with the sudden instinct of protection, and cried out:

"Norah! You are the best lady I have ever seen! Why, you are like a queen—what a queen ought to be!"

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women are always more selfish than men—are and I asked my question:

"Norah, darling—tell me when will you be married?" When shall we be married?"

The love-light was sweet in her eyes as she answered me with a blush that made perfect the smile on her lips:

"Nay! You should have let me ask my question first."

"Why so, dearest?"

"Because, dear, I am thinking of the future. You know, Arthur, that I love you, and that whatever you wish I would and shall gladly do; but you must think for me too. I am only a peasant girl."

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OUR OMNIBUS.

THE M.P.

The contest at the Eccles Division promises to be very close. Both parties are represented by strong local candidates, and in that matter neither has any advantage. But the Gladstonites affirm that their electoral strength has largely increased since 1886, when they were in the comparatively small minority of 292. If that be the case, they ought to stand a fair chance of winning the seat, but I understand that they do not express much confidence. In Mr. Egerton the Unionists have a candidate whose return would be an appreciable addition in many ways to "the collective wisdom." When he was previously a member he made a solid reputation for himself as an enlightened gentleman, full of sympathy—like all his family—for the working classes.

That twitting gentleman, Mr. Herbert Gladstone, has joined the chorus which denounces Mr. Balfour for the unpardonable sin of playing golf. What is the difference, I wonder, from a moral standpoint, between playing golf and playing cricket? Mr. Herbert is an enthusiastic cricketer, but no Unionist has ever thrown it in his teeth as a deadly transgression. Similarly, Papa Gladstone dearly loves to chop down trees, but this harmless demonstration of physical vigour never elicits a word of adverse comment from his political antagonists. It is only golf that is wicked, and not it unless played by "the saviour of Irish society."

Very strong efforts are being made, I hear, by Gladstonite wire-pullers to dissuade the leaders of the "New Unionists" from starting a number of working-class candidates at the general election. It is pointed out to them that their doing so would "split the party." To which remonstrance, they pertinently reply "Then, if you don't want to split the party, withdraw your own candidates and support ours." It is a very pretty little quarrel, but I make no doubt that the caucus will eventually triumph, thanks to the diplomatic talents of the great Schindler.

Once more there is talk of a rupture in the Parnellite party. Believe it not; they continue to be "as thick as thieves," and these reports are only got up to make foolish people imagine that Mr. Parnell does not wield quite dictatorial powers. The sole cause of difference, I believe, is that some of his leading "items" faintly object to his ignoring them utterly when nominating candidates for by-elections. But he does not care a brass farthing for this murmur; whether his colleagues like it or not, he is resolved to keep the entire party patronage in his own hands.

It seems never to occur to Messrs. O'Brien and Dillon that, by indulging in such rowdy conduct as they have lately been guilty of, they demonstrate in a most effectual manner their unfitness to have the destinies of Ireland committed to their charge. How can English or Scotch electors be converted to Home Rule when the chief exponents and champions of that cult behave in such a discreditable way? These are the men on whom the working of the new order of things would necessarily devolve, and it is the crassest stupidity on their part, therefore, to embroil themselves with the law and its administrators at every opportunity. That sort of "patriotism" may go down in Ireland, but on this side of St. George's Channel it is generally regarded as a disqualification for public office.

Mr. Caine, it is reported, has become a thorough-paced Home Ruler, and quite approves of giving a blank cheque to Mr. Gladstone, to fill up as he pleases in favour of Mr. Parnell. A last change must, therefore, have come over Mr. Caine's dream since he challenged re-election at Barrow. Until he was left out in the cold he professed to be as ardent a Unionist as ever, his only quarrel with the Government being on the compensation clauses of the Licensing Bill. Sweet are the uses of adversity; the loss of his seat, and the impossibility of obtaining another from the Unionists, have apparently combined to convince him that his previous antagonism to Parnellism was mere prejudice. And thus has he "found salvation" by an unpleasant path.

new G.P.O. Angling Society, and for which I thank him. I must say, however, that I cannot agree with the "stringent rule" prohibiting fishing on Sunday, as I am at a loss to discover any argument in favour of it, especially as I should imagine that most of the G.P.O. officials would find their opportunities for plying the rod on that day. Still, in compliance with Mr. Turle's request, I make the announcement of the existence of such a rule.

Three of the Woolwich clubs, viz., the Woolwich Brothers, Howick Brothers, and Woolwich Invicta, competed on Sunday last in a roving competition, when eight prizes were fished for. The match took place at East Farleigh, on the Medway, when nearly sixty anglers journeyed down for the event, but only two of the prizes were taken—Mr. Davis (Woolwich Brothers), and Mr. Edmonds (Howick Brothers) being the prize takers. The other prizes will be fished for next week. However, the splendid weather made up for the poor sport on the grand stretch of water.

As an evidence of the growing popularity of the Pulborough and Amberley excursions, it may be stated that Sunday last was the first occasion when it has been necessary to run a second train in October. No less than 343 fishermen competed for the thirty-eight prizes offered in the Pulborough competition, the principal prize-takers being B. Latimore (Amicable Waltons), 16lb. 1oz.; J. Armstrong (Great Northern Brothers), 9lb. 1oz.; T. Vincent, jun. (Amicable Brothers), 6lb. 12oz.; and D. Cooper (Amicable Excelsior), 6lb. 4oz. Mr. A. A. Eldridge is to be congratulated on the success attending the competition.

One is tempted to smile at the fishing reports appearing from time to time in the sporting press. For instance, a daily sporting contemporary gravely informs its readers that the River Lee "is in very good order as far as the water is concerned," just as if the sinking of fifty tons of gas lime were an every day occurrence and calculated to improve the condition of the water!

The next visit on the Central Association list is to the Clerkenwell Pictorialists, Duke of York, Gloucester-street, Clerkenwell. I join in Mr. C. Watling's wish that the room will be crowded. The Club and Institute Union are arranging a contest for October 26th, the place to be decided hereafter.

Some of the members of the metropolitan angling clubs have recently been visiting the neighbourhood of Staines, and giving employment to John Keene, jun., one of the local fisherman. Mr. Edwards, of the Clapham Junction Angling Society, was out one day and got fourteen barbel and six dozen of roach and dace. Mr. Bowater and Mr. Robinson, both members of the same club, in one day caught eleven barbel and five dozen of roach and dace, and Mr. Dyne, of the East London Angling Society, in one day captured eleven barbel and four dozen of roach and dace. Charles Hone, another local fisherman at Staines, says he has been pretty busy lately in getting some good roach, and after some rain he hopes to get well in amongst the barbel. The two hansom charwoman abused the driver of the chosen vehicle arguing that it was a hansom which was first whistled for. The gentleman solemnly protested that he had not whistled at all, but the irate cabbies evidently did not believe him. My correspondent adds that he really believes he heard the parrot laughing to himself at the fun.

The following is from the pen of Mr. A. Robottom, our South American correspondent—"I paid a visit to the Quinta Normal, near Santiago, which is a kind of zoological and botanical gardens combined. They have a splendid lot of guanacos (wild llamas). These animals are found in Chili, the Argentine Republic, Patagonia, and Tierra del Fuego. They are not useful as beasts of burden as the tame llamas are. They have a very disagreeable manner of spitting at you when in captivity. Their skins are much sought for to make rugs, bed coverings, &c., from. The Patagonian Indians are extremely fond of their flesh. Immense quantities are to be found near Port Desire, in Patagonia, more being killed in this district than in any other part of South America. The Indians in Tierra del Fuego kill them with arrows, the heads of which are made from the ribs of whales or from pieces of glass chipped into shape. The only other animals which are at all noticeable in Tierra del Fuego are foxes and rats, with seals and sea lions on the coasts. I was informed that if you kill a guanaco that has a young one two or three weeks old, the latter will follow you about and never leave you."

But piping times of peace, and martinetts in trim, and all that sort of thing? (sic) Were we all wrong? Had we no cause for ill? (sic) What of the red-tape faction—ceaseless driller—the punishment severe for trifling laws—the base injustice of court-martial laws?

It may be remembered that in these columns severe comments were made on this ungrammatical and disloyal jargon, and I am glad to say that the above lines have now been expunged, and in place of them the following meek couplet is recited by Mr. Celli:

We disobeyed—twas wrong, for no defence
Can soldiers plead for disobedience.

Which couplet blends awkwardly with the original couplet:

Man never can become a mere machine,

Spite of his oath, "For Country and for Queen."

Mr. Celli sings the incidental songs capitally, and recites the connecting verse so cleverly that its defects are to a considerable extent condoned.

My friend, Signor Lago, gives me the welcome information that the greatest of English violinists, Mr. Carrodus, will lead the Royal Italian Opera orchestra during the approaching season at Covent Garden. It had been rumoured that the state of his health would not permit of his attending the thirty-six performances and also the rehearsals for each, but I am happy to say that all obstacles to his engagement have been removed.

The gratifying fact, mentioned by me last week, that several of our best vocalists have been engaged for the approaching Italian Opera season, is highly creditable to Signor Lago, but I hear that it has brought him no end of trouble in the shape of applications for engagements of people whose names are unknown to fame, who have had no stage experience, who, in most cases, are not present acquainted with the Italian language, but are willing to learn it at the manager's expense.

Then there are the worn-out veterans, male and female, who, in their prosperous times, made no provision for the "rainy day" that is sure to arrive sooner or later, and it is painful and pitiful to witness their assumption of gaiety when soliciting engagements for which they are no longer qualified. The jealousies of rival performers are perpetual sources of trouble to the manager, and it may also state, that Mr. S. C. Harding will read a paper to the Seymour Brothers, A.S. on the 29th inst., the subject being "Fish Life and the World of Waters," a subject which should interest a large audience of anglers.

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should give up his beautiful house and grounds at Upper Norwood, but he tells me that he is looking out for a residence near Hyde Park for the sake of his teaching.

Last spring I gave an account of the proceedings taken by a host of leading British musicians to prevent the granting of musical degrees in absentia by the Toronto Triumvirate. The Toronto reply has elicited a crushing rejoinder from the elite of our native musicians, and I understand that the Government are likely to forbid the further granting of Toronto degrees in absentia to natives of this country.

I have received Italian journals, speaking in high praise of Signor Valero, in Mascagni's popular opera, "Cavalleria Rusticana." If I am not greatly mistaken, we shall have opportunities of hearing this opera (with an extra act) in London next year.

It is a common delusion that Italy is the country best entitled to be styled "the land of song." Better music may be heard in Germany and Austria, and some of the street singing in Italy is hideous. Still, the Italians encourage native art, as may be seen in an advertisement which appeared recently in an Italian newspaper, as follows:

The authorities of a certain Italian town advertise for a skilled musician, to conduct the town band and a symphony orchestra; to compose or transcribe the music for each; to play the first violin in the orchestra when required; to play the church organ; and to teach eight pupils gratuitously." I hope that none of my readers will go mad with jealousy when I add that the fortunate winner of this appointment will receive a salary equivalent to one pound per week!

BUCKLAND, JUNIOR.
Mr. J. Pollon sends a very amusing anecdote. At a mansion in Kensington Gardens, Bayswater, there lives, he says, a parrot which generally is placed in its cage near the window. While waiting for a friend near this house my correspondent heard the parrot call out "Hi! cabby, Hi! cabby," and then commence giving loud cab whistles. At first he gave one long whistle such as is generally used as a signal for hansom! Sure enough a hansom, answering to the call, dashes up and hunts all round the square for the person who called it. Then, after a time, the bird whistled again, and first a four-wheeler, and then another hansom arrived. While they were hunting about, a gentleman emerged from an adjoining house and hired the four-wheeler. The two hansom charwoman abused the driver of the chosen vehicle arguing that it was a hansom which was first whistled for. The gentleman solemnly protested that he had not whistled at all, but the irate cabbies evidently did not believe him. My correspondent adds that he really believes he heard the parrot laughing to himself at the fun.

PIPER PAN.
I have received from the Alhambra Company a letter, enclosing an amended version of the poem, entitled "Ordered Abroad," which is rightly recited by Mr. Frank Celli. It may be remembered that of the original lines the following half-dozen were prominent:

But piping times of peace, and martinetts in trim, and all that sort of thing? (sic)
Were we all wrong? Had we no cause for ill? (sic)
What of the red-tape faction—ceaseless driller—the punishment severe for trifling laws—the base injustice of court-martial laws?

It may be remembered that in these columns severe comments were made on this ungrammatical and disloyal jargon, and I am glad to say that the above lines have now been expunged, and in place of them the following meek couplet is recited by Mr. Celli:

We disobeyed—twas wrong, for no defence
Can soldiers plead for disobedience.

Which couplet blends awkwardly with the original couplet:

Man never can become a mere machine,

Spite of his oath, "For Country and for Queen."

Mr. Celli sings the incidental songs capitally, and recites the connecting verse so cleverly that its defects are to a considerable extent condoned.

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very happy inspiration, and not less admirable are his ditties in the Spanish manner. The Bojie Song is out of harmony with the general tenor of the piece; but who objects to incongruity in burlesque?

There is one act of "A Village Price" at the Haymarket in which Mr. Tree does not appear, and it was during the progress of that act on Monday evening that I had a chat with the Haymarket manager on the subject of his recent provincial tour and his forthcoming productions. He was looking extremely well, and was evidently much gratified by the result of his experiences in the country. He was there only once before—in 1878-80—and then only as a member of a comic company. He played the old Marquis in "Madame Favart," and I remember being struck by the excellence of his make-up for the part.

On the present occasion Mr. Tree went into the provinces with the reputation of an established London manager and actor. Moreover, he took with him an exceptionally good company. But, judging from what I have read in the country papers, I should say that the success of the tour was, in the main, secured by the effect created by Mr. Tree's impersonations. The versatility displayed in the realization of three such absolutely diverse characters as Falstaff, the Abbé Dubois, and Captain Swift clearly captured the admiration both of critics and of playgoers.

Concerning "Beau Austin," the play which is going to be given out at the first of his "Mondays," Mr. Tree expresses himself "fascinated." I did not ask him to be more explicit—it would not have been fair; but I gathered that he was genuinely anxious to put before connoisseurs a play which should attract them by reason of its high literary and dramatic aim. The costumes, it appears, will be those of 1820, which, so far, have been set upon the stage only in comic opera.

"Called Back," when revived shortly at the Haymarket, will not only revive Mr. Tree's effective Macari, but will give Miss Julia Neilson another opportunity of distinguishing herself. That young lady is making rapid strides in her art. Under Mr. Gilbert's tuition, she was little more, somethough, than a highly intelligent automaton. Now that she is allowed to think for herself and take her own way, she is developing a method of her own. She is still rather stagey, but she improves rapidly. Her length and breadth of build give a certain largeness to her motions and her gestures, and she is by no means fitted for all parts; but in such a role as that of Madame D'Aunay in "Comedy and Tragedy" she achieves the remarkable feat of eclipsing Miss Anderson.

Present on the other evening at a meeting of the Playgoers' Club, I noticed with pleasure the seriousness with which the members regard their function of pronouncing upon plays. They are very much in earnest, and the fact does them credit. They must remember, however, that the great bulk of the playing public is not so profoundly interested as they are in the condition and future of the stage. Most people, perhaps, see only half a dozen pieces a year, and care not a jot. I should say, about the drama as an art or an institution. They desire only to be entertained.

Talking about Mr. Tree's successes in the provinces, what wonders Mr. Wyndham and his company have been doing in Manchester! The attraction of three "stars"—Mr. Wyndham, Mrs. Beere, and Miss Moore—appears to have been all powerful with the local public. On the first night there was a regular progression in the number of calls for the principals—one call after the first act, two after the second, and three after the third. Manchester can be enthusiastic when it likes.

One of our living dramatists may be complimented upon what looks like a prudence amounting to caniness. He never (I believe) takes a "call" alone, or before the curtain: he takes it behind the curtain, and usually off the stage. The actors are very much in earnest, and the fact does them credit. They must remember, however, that the great bulk of the playing public is not so profoundly interested as they are in the condition and future of the stage. Most people, perhaps, see only half a dozen pieces a year, and care not a jot. I should say, about the drama as an art or an institution. They desire only to be entertained.

GENERAL CHATTER.

I would direct the attention of the police authority to the great public danger consequent upon cartmen and waggoners falling asleep. The chief offenders are those who, after bringing in market garden produce to Covent Garden, carry back manure or empty baskets. If you keep watch on any main exit from London on the afternoon of a market day at Covent Garden, the odds are that you will see at least one out of three fast asleep on his perch. A few days ago I read the report of one of these slumberers being crushed to death under his own wheels.

This idea of mine is to have the police take notice of the offence, and even when they do, content themselves with awaking the sleeper, who, after a few minutes' blinking, usually returns to dreamland.

No doubt it is the case that many of these men are very cruelly used by their employers, who seem to believe that a cartman can do without another sleep than that he snatches on the road. It is reported to me on credible authority that they are sometimes kept on the move for three days and nights at a stretch, with scarcely a break off. If this be so, the sooner the "New Unionists" start an agitation to remove the abuse the better. But as the employers are outside the reach of the law, safety can only be obtained by proceeding against those who ignore the requirements of public safety.

Strikes do not appear to succeed so well in the United States as in the United Kingdom. While on this side of the Atlantic the majority have accomplished their objects, in part or in whole, over there nearly all have ended in utter failure. The great brickmakers' strike at New York is now to be added to the lengthy list of such defeats. After sacrificing more than \$2,000,000 in wages, the men have given in unconditionally. The main reason for the defeat is that the workers have been organised, and can thus oppose a stronger front to labour organisations.

The endeavour to set up "unemployed" demonstrations in London finds little countenance among genuine working men. They regard this preposterous agitation in its true light as a Socialist experiment on metropolitan credulity. That sort of a population numbering about 5,000,000 a certain percentage should be out of work merely represents the normal condition of every large city. But just now this percentage is exceptionally small, and it would be smaller still but for Dockers' Union debarring casual toilers from obtaining a share of work at the docks. The most deserving "unemployed" are those who suffer in silence—the clerks who cannot secure berths, the struggling literary men, and the retired soldiers and sailors who wander about the streets, homeless and hungry.

Another charming frock to be worn at a forthcoming evening party in the great world was shown to me. It was made of fine muslin; the skirt, accordion-pleated, was worn with a bodice of cream-coloured Liberty lace, made tight to the figure, opening in front over a chemise of white muslin, and deep frills of the accordion pleating formed the sleeves; a broad sash of cream silk was tied in a bow at the back. The wearer is not out of her teens yet, but will be one of the great London belles before long.

Swiss belts are greatly the rage just now, whether for morning or evening wear. For the latter made in velvet or silk and worn over white muslin, they are most effective, especially so when laced with a colour corresponding to the trimming of the dress. No prettier costume can be worn by a young girl at a small evening or musical party than a white muslin frock, with fully gathered blouse bodice, over which is worn a black velvet Swiss belt, laced with whatever colour is most becoming to the wearer. For morning dress Swiss belts of leather are fashionable; they are made in black tan colour, navy blue, and dark maroon, and look particularly well

worn with a Jersey bodice of a corresponding colour.

The Jersey bodice is quite as much in favour as ever, and deservedly so. It is now made in every imaginable quality to suit all

THE THEATRES.

GAIETY.

Following closely in the wake of the adjacent Lyceum and Drury Lane Theatres, Mr. Geo. Edwards on the 4th reopened the elegant playhouse for which he caters so judiciously with a novel attraction of the lighter kind, written by Messrs. Sims and Pettitt, and entitled "Carmen Up to Date." Unlike "Monte Cristo, Jun.," which was a refined variety show specially devised to exploit the personal waggery and fun of its two chief exponents, the new entertainment has the merit of being true to its description as set forth in the programme—veritable burlesque—travestying in a jocund spirit of good-natured chaff Bizet's tunefully popular opera, the dramatic action of which is closely followed up to the final scene, where, instead of the jealous Spanish Don José slaying the flighty Carmen in a fit of jealousy, she, in topsy-turvy fashion, threatens to have her knife in him, but refrains from "striking" on his merely promising to "go home to his mother." The motive accounting for this merciful reticence is the most whimsical notion in the burlesque; each of the various methods of death Carmen offers to use being demurred to in turn by Don José as a stage plagiarism used before in one or other play duly cited. The opera is followed even to the scenery, the picturesque Spanish market with its bizarre and ever-changing groups of soldiers, fishermen and market women being duly displayed as the curtain first rises to the lively strains of Mr. Lutz, in which this accomplished conductor and composer combined mingles in the true spirit of burlesque, with marvellous skill, the opening bars of the operatic strains with his own lively melodies. Here the handsome young private of Spanish lancers, maddened by Carmen, falls into the net of her amorous wiles; and no wonder, since the lively coquette is impersonated by the inimitable Miss St. John, whose hearty reception by the audience, lasting in a storm of acclamation plaudits through what seemed to be minutes, almost overcame this deservedly popular favourite with real emotion. Don José, left on guard over the fickle Carmen, is bewitched till he consents to set her free from the rope with which she has been bound for her saucy defiance of Don José's martinet colonel. The pretty flirt escapes guarded by the crowd of market folk who stand between herself and the soldiers. Carmen, having won Don José from the allegiance he owes in part to Michaela and duty to his regiment, charms the audience no less by the sweetness of her singing of the flowing sentimental ballads composed for her by Mr. Lutz. The scene is otherwise enlivened in this stirring opening act by a pas de quatre, of a quaint wild kind danced by the Misses Greville, Levey, Gilbert, and Wilmot, who, in this quite novel terpsichorean measure, vied with each other with such infinite spirit and graceful abandon as won for the dance a triple encore. But among the many choice morceaux, the one which won the heartiest acclamations, peal upon peal, was the rollicking comic song of "The Jolly Boys' Club," given by Mr. Lennen with that marvellous verve which made "Ballyhoo" famous. Again and again was this ditty, with its capital chorus, demanded and given, rousing the house to such a pitch of excitement as made them recall the players at the triumphant descent of the act drop. The curtain rises for the second and last time disclosing a picture causing a renewal of plaudits such as signalled its fall. In the foreground are seen Carmen's tribe of gipsy smugglers which has been joined by Don José on his desertion from the army, in order that he may be near the witch who fascinates him. The group is seen reclining at the mouth of their cavern-haunt under the rocks, which serve as a frame for the beautiful seascape, out of which rises precipitously the great rock of Gibraltar. Attracted by a new flame in the person of Escamillo, the torero, Carmen abandons Don José by her sight, a result which proves agreeable to the audience, inasmuch as it incites the discarded lover in his jealous frenzy to sing the creepy, creepy Irish song of "The Boxy Man," in which, in his dramatic intensity, Mr. Lennen, assisted by the admirable chorus, again wrought the house to such a frenzy of enthusiasm almost equal to his own. Another delightful feature of the gipsy's revels was heard in the faraway song, in which the dainty dancer, Miss Letty Lind, revolved new gifts not only as a songstress but as a clever mimic of the notes of the birds and other animals peculiar to bucolic life. Hey presto, and the scene changes to the well-known entrance of the Plaza Toro—the bull-fighters' amphitheatre. After a pretty pageant of the matadors, torreadors, and their gallantly attired visitors, seen passing under the porch the familiar duet of which closes the serious opera is enacted between Don José and Carmen, ending in the ludicrous resolve of the latter to go home to his mother. But before this comes about, with a view to varying the interest, Mr. Lennen and Mr. Arthur Williams indulge in a topical duet, which, dealing with such subjects as the late theatrical fracas between the artist and the journalist, mightily tickled the teeming denizens of pit and gallery. A more graceful item was the characteristic gipsy dance given by the lithe and agile Miss Letty Lind, who, with gleaming sword and scarlet shawl, illustrated with exquisite art the picturesquely movements of the torreador in attacking the bull. The burlesque was brought to a conclusion with a repetition of the stirring refrain of "The Jolly Boys' Club." The music, whether sung in chorus or in solo, is the most tuneful and melodious yet composed by Mr. Lutz for this form of elegant burlesque extravaganza. The ballads, rendered with such brilliancy and freshness by Miss St. John, are instanced with sentiment and graceful melody, while the rattling vivacity of the humorous songs, notably "The Jolly Boys' Club," and "The Boxy Man," which are admirably contrasted, absolutely infect the audience with the spirit of glee and merriment. Mr. A. Williams presented a quaintly funny figure as the first of the torde Carmen's deserted lovers, and his vocal skill was of great value in the concerted music. Of the dancers, favourable mention is already made. The burlesque, written with obvious skill and stagecraft, gives all the leading actors engaged in it opportunities for the display of their varied gifts at the best. Miss Jenny Dawson made a smart Escamillo, but the torreador is but a small personage without his famous song. Miss Maria Jones was a buxom Michaela with a welcome strain of humour in her acting. The chorus was all that could be wished.

SHAFTESBURY.

It cannot be said that Mrs. Lancaster-Wallis has been happy in the play selected by her for production on resuming the management of her own theatre last Wednesday. In "The Sixth Commandment," the piece in question, founded by the fecund playwright, Mr. Robert Buchanan, on a Russian story, the audience were made to sit full of horrors upon dramatic fare so unpalatable as to cause a strong protest against it when the curtain finally fell. If the action of the piece really is, as it pretends to be, an undistorted reflex of the Russian life and society of to-day, heaven help the wretched subjects of the Czar!—it is

no wonder they become Nihilists. A certain Prince Zosimoff, young in years but old in crime, is presented as a fiend incarnate, who outrages women, packs off men to Siberia, forces the lady who loves him, to become his wife, suborns the chief of police to his murderous designs, and all this is done with the perfect immunity of an irresponsible autocrat until it is necessary to close the nausaeous action of the play, when it occurs to one of the polished villain's victims to appeal to the Czar, who immediately orders the human monster into custody and, at the same time, releases the sufferers from his malignant cruelty and lust. But why this appeal, since it proves so suddenly efficacious, is not resorted to in the first instance, is not explained; only in that case, of course, there would be no play, which, as the event proved, would have been an advantage to all concerned, and particularly to the management. To recite the plot of this grisly melodrama would offend the reader, as it did the audience; besides, it would be a mere waste of time as well as patience, since it is next to impossible that the piece can retain its place in the bill longer than may be found necessary to prepare a fresh production. It was pitiful to see such capable histrionic exponents of character as Messrs. Herbert Waring, Marquis, Lewis Waller, and William Herbert, with the Misses Marian Lee, Maudie Brennan, E. Robins, and Mrs. Lancaster herself, wasting their talents upon such fustian, which lasted through four mortal hours. In answer to an ironical call for the author, Mr. Buchanan appeared, not alone, as customary, but surrounded by the dramatic company, whose presence, however, did not save him from the storm of hooting deservedly raised against so thoroughly bad a play.

LYRIC.

Mr. Horace Sodger's first campaign alessee of the Lyric Theatre, in Shaftesbury Avenue, commenced on Thursday last with a successful performance of "La Cigale," an English adaptation by M.M. F.C. Burnand and Gilbert Beckett of the opera similarly entitled, written by MM. Chivot and Duru, and composed partly by M. Andran, composer of "Olivette" and "La Mascotte," and partly by the well-known orchestral conductor, Mr. Ivan Caryl, who has conducted the musical comedy and burlesque at the Standard, and the "Handy Dandy" at the Strand. The current programme at this popular resort possesses features which should commend it to the notice of lovers of the variety stage. The entertainment is prefaced with the customary overture, which is made a special feature here, and its execution is highly creditable to Mr. J. E. Baker and his followers. Mr. Tom Pleon indulges in comedy and banjo playing in turn, and makes a good impression. Miss Lottie Jackson is a capital exponent of the semi-comic staple, and her dancing is expert. Mr. Sandro Vio appears in a comic conjuring act, possessing some genuine entertaining qualities; and Messrs. Fredericks and Drew unite with good results in a pleasant variety act. Very entertaining are the Sisters Flexmore with their tuneful duets and graceful dancing. Midway in the entertainment is presented an amusing sketch, entitled "The Whistle." It is based on a number of rather improbable circumstances, but, being plentifully supplied with jokes and fun, it is nevertheless diverting. This is well interpreted by Messrs. W. Pink, I. Williams, J. Collinson, and Miss F. Moore. Among the artists whose performances are too well known to need description will be found Miss Vesta Tilley, Miss Marie Le Blanc, Mr. Harry Anderson, and the troupe of performing street Arabs trained by Mr. Tom White. On the whole, the entertainment is bright and pleasing, and is brought to a satisfactory close by Will Fredo, an excellent comedian and dancer. On Tuesday next Mr. Tom Tinsley, the courteous manager, will take his third complimentary benefit, for which a special entertainment will be provided. The roomy stalls now being introduced here are a decided improvement.

THE LATE MRS. BOOTH.

The two leading theatrical journals, the *Era* and the *Stage*, have been doing good work for a long time past in directing attention to the insanitary condition of too many playhouses, both metropolitan and provincial. Blood-poisoning, caused by defective drainage and insufficient ventilation is notoriously no uncommon malady among actors and actresses compelled to pass the best part of their time daily and nightly in the close and vitiated atmosphere of certain theatres, which are only too well known among stage professionals. How is it, then, that the sanitary inspectors, in face of facts of which they ought to be, and, indeed, must be, cognisant, fail to do their duty in not reporting these standing mischievous dangers to the parish or County Council authorities? A capital suggestion bearing upon this subject has been made by Mr. Fred. Kerr, who proposes that managers against whose playhouses insanitary conditions could be proved should be rendered legally liable for the salaries of their actors debarraged from service by sickness arising from the causes in question.—M. Brasseur, the popular Parisian farceur, who, in "Tricote et Cacot," and a hundred other French farces, convulsed the audience with laughter, has just passed away. Of late years he became manager of the *Naouettes*, which, curiously enough, like its London namesake, the *Novelties*, has been serving to continuous failure.—A new French version of "Romeo and Juliet," adapted by M. Georges Lefevre, is in rehearsal for production at the Odeon, which ranks only second to the *Theatre Francais* as the classical theatre of Paris.—The latest impending departures of leading players for the United States include, not only Mr. Willard, but Mr. and Mrs. Dacre. It seems strange that the husband should have secured a New York engagement, whereas the wife, Miss Annie Rose also, as the Duchess of Faysenberg, sang and acted well; Mr. Dwyer sang baritone passages well; comic business was capably performed by Mr. Lionel Brough, Mr. Garden, and Mr. Eric Lewis. The Chevalier Franz de Bernheim, whom Marton eventually married, was represented by Mr. Scovel, whose fine tenor voice was heard to advantage in some, but not all, of his solos. The opera was splendidly "mounted"; the scenery, by M.M. Ryan and Perkins, is beautiful, the hundreds of costumes are tasteful and radiant, and Mr. Charles Harris's stage management is admirable. Calls were made for the leading artists, who were enthusiastically applauded. A similar reception was given to Mr. Horace Sodger, and "La Cigale" achieved a success which seems certain to endure for many a month to come.

BRITANNIA.

The entertainment given here last week by Mrs. Lane must be regarded as an unusually liberal one, seeing that it combined three very good pieces, viz., "Sophie," "Box and Cox," and "Our Lads in Bed." From long association the Britannia company work very well together, and whatever work they undertake invariably turns out well. The applause that greeted Mrs. S. Lane on her re-appearance shows that the Hortoniots appreciate her catering. Mrs. Lane on this occasion assumed the part of Honour, in Mr. E. Buchanan's adaptation of "Tom Jones," and played with her wonted energy and spirit. Some godawful wench was vouchsafed by other members of the company. Mr. Algernon Syms gave a fine representation of the hero; and was well supported by Mr. W. Gardiner as Partridge, Mr. J. B. Howe as the boisterous Squire Western, Mr. J. Munro as Allworthy, Mr. W. Steedman as the scheming Biffle, and Mr. W. Glenney as Square, were all thoroughly at home in their parts; as were also the representatives of Sophia, Tabitha, Lady Bellaston, and Molly—Misses O. Webb, M. Pettifer, M. Griffiths, and M. Marshall respectively. In the ever-welcome farce, "Box and Cox" which followed, Mr. G. Bigwood and Mr. H. W. Varnie evolved a good deal of fun, with the aid of Miss L. Howe as the landlady. The programme concludes with the military sketch "Our Lads in Bed," in which Mr. G. H. Macdermott receives the support of Mr. W. Steedman and other members of the Britannia company.

ELEPHANT AND CASTLE.

The production of the Drury Lane drama, "Human Nature," at this theatre on Monday last was attended with success, both in regard to the attendance and the artistic staging of this stirring play. Though M. D'Esterre has not at his command anything like the staff and access to available at a theatre like Drury Lane, he has nevertheless succeeded in staging his latest production in every way to the satisfaction of his patrons. The cast of characters was excellent. Mr. Robert C. Lyons, who directed the production, assumed the character of the hero, Captain Temple, and his impersonation was marked throughout by a manly and earnest style. Mr. W. Weston, as Matthew Hawker, combined vivacity with descriptiveness creditably; and the Pauline of Mr. W. Selwyn was equally good. Miss Florence Harrington, in the trying part of Nellie Temple, displayed genuine emotional power, and deservedly won the sympathies of the audience. Other characters were well

played by Messrs. G. Claville, N. Clark, J. T. Macmillan, Misses K. Tyrrell, O. K. Noyle, A. Butler, K. Robinson, and M. Johnstone. Careful acting in regard to the minor characters, picturesque scenery, and appropriate accessories all tended to the success of the production.

SOUTH LONDON PALACE.

This well-known house of entertainment in London-road appears to increase in popularity every week. Nor can this be wondered at, seeing that the proprietress, Mrs. J. J. Poole, and her able manager, Mr. Fred Law, are evidently fully alive to the fact that a programme to be attractive must be of all-round excellence and constantly varied. The company under engagement just now is of more than ordinary excellence. Members of the well-known pantomime family, the Lupinos, present a sketch illustrative of the vagaries of our old acquaintance Jack Sheppard, and induce in a series of whimsicalities and feats of agility that are rapturously applauded by crowded houses nightly. It is a bright diverting sketch, and the scenic changes are admirably arranged on principles similar to those of our homes of melodrama. Messrs. Brown, Newland, and Leclerc, in a most amusing negro entertainment, keep the house in a genuine roar. Johnny Dwyer is also extremely funny, and among the remainder of the company will be found such well-known artists as Minnie Mario, Sweeney and Hyland, Gowen and Godfrey, the Sisters de Castro, the Henderson and Stanley Quartette, Minnie Jeffs, T. E. Dunville, and Frank Folley, and the Harvey Midgents. Altogether the entertainment is well deserving of the generous support that is accorded it.

CHARING CROSS MUSIC HALL.

The current programme at this popular resort possesses features which should commend it to the notice of lovers of the variety stage. The entertainment is prefaced with the customary overture, which is made a special feature here, and its execution is highly creditable to Mr. J. E. Baker and his followers. Mr. Tom Pleon indulges in comedy and banjo playing in turn, and makes a good impression. Miss Lottie Jackson is a capital exponent of the semi-comic staple, and her dancing is expert. Mr. Sandro Vio appears in a comic conjuring act, possessing some genuine entertaining qualities; and Messrs. Fredericks and Drew unite with good results in a pleasant variety act. Very entertaining are the Sisters Flexmore with their tuneful duets and graceful dancing. Midway in the entertainment is presented an amusing sketch, entitled "The Whistle." It is based on a number of rather improbable circumstances, but, being plentifully supplied with jokes and fun, it is nevertheless diverting. This is well interpreted by Messrs. W. Pink, I. Williams, J. Collinson, and Miss F. Moore. Among the artists whose performances are too well known to need description will be found Miss Vesta Tilley, Miss Marie Le Blanc, Mr. Harry Anderson, and the troupe of performing street Arabs trained by Mr. Tom White. On the whole, the entertainment is bright and pleasing, and is brought to a satisfactory close by Will Fredo, an excellent comedian and dancer. On Tuesday next Mr. Tom Tinsley, the courteous manager, will take his third complimentary benefit, for which a special entertainment will be provided. The roomy stalls now being introduced here are a decided improvement.

THE LATE MRS. BOOTH.

The ceremonies connected with the funeral of the late Mrs. Booth have been fixed for Monday and Tuesday next. It is expected that a large number of officers and friends of the Salvation Army will be present. The funeral service will take place at "Olympia" on Monday night, in the presence of General Booth and his family and staff. On Tuesday 4,000 officers will follow the body through the City to Abney Park Cemetery, where the interment will take place.

COLLISION IN THE NORTH SEA.

LOSS OF A VESSEL AND ALL HANDS.

The two leading theatrical journals, the *Era* and the *Stage*, have been doing good work for a long time past in directing attention to the insanitary condition of too many playhouses, both metropolitan and provincial. Blood-poisoning, caused by defective drainage and insufficient ventilation is notoriously no uncommon malady among actors and actresses compelled to pass the best part of their time daily and nightly in the close and vitiated atmosphere of certain theatres, which are only too well known among stage professionals. How is it, then, that the sanitary inspectors, in face of facts of which they ought to be, and, indeed, must be, cognisant, fail to do their duty in not reporting these standing mischievous dangers to the parish or County Council authorities? A capital suggestion bearing upon this subject has been made by Mr. Fred. Kerr, who proposes that managers against whose playhouses insanitary conditions could be proved should be rendered legally liable for the salaries of their actors debarraged from service by sickness arising from the causes in question.—M. Brasseur, the popular Parisian farceur, who, in "Tricote et Cacot," and a hundred other French farces, convulsed the audience with laughter, has just passed away. Of late years he became manager of the *Naouettes*, which, curiously enough, like its London namesake, the *Novelties*, has been serving to continuous failure.—A new French version of "Romeo and Juliet," adapted by M. Georges Lefevre, is in rehearsal for production at the Odeon, which ranks only second to the *Theatre Francais* as the classical theatre of Paris.—The latest impending departures of leading players for the United States include, not only Mr. Willard, but Mr. and Mrs. Dacre. It seems strange that the husband should have secured a New York engagement, whereas the wife, Miss Annie Rose also, as the Duchess of Faysenberg, sang and acted well; comic business was capably performed by Mr. Lionel Brough, Mr. Garden, and Mr. Eric Lewis. The Chevalier Franz de Bernheim, whom Marton eventually married, was represented by Mr. Scovel, whose fine tenor voice was heard to advantage in some, but not all, of his solos. The opera was splendidly "mounted"; the scenery, by M.M. Ryan and Perkins, is beautiful, the hundreds of costumes are tasteful and radiant, and Mr. Charles Harris's stage management is admirable. Calls were made for the leading artists, who were enthusiastically applauded. A similar reception was given to Mr. Horace Sodger, and "La Cigale" achieved a success which seems certain to endure for many a month to come.

TOM HOODLESS ATTENDS.

ALL THE PRINCIPAL RACE MEETINGS.

T. H. also begs to inform the Public he has no Representatives whatever.

JOHN E. HART,

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JOHN E. HART,

TURF COMMISSION AGENT.

IMPERIAL MANSIONS,

OXFORD-STREET,

LONDON W.

THE "MATRIMONIAL NEWS" CASE.

MR. DUNCAN'S BANKRUPTCY.

In the London Bankruptcy Court an adjourned meeting was held under the failure of Mr. L. F. Duncan, late proprietor of the *Matrimonial News*, against whom a receiving order was recently made on the petition of Miss Gladys Knowles, a creditor for £10,000, being the damages awarded to her in a breach of promise action. On the 25th instant, Mr. Rubinstein (Leggett, Rubinstein, and Co.) said his client was still too ill to attend. The chairman observed that no medical certificate that effect had been produced. It was in evidence that about the end of May last the debtor had received upwards of £10,000, and he should certainly require to know what had become of the money.—Mr. Hatchett Jones, for the petitioning creditor, pointed out that the debtor had sworn that, after paying every debt, he had had between £20,000 and £27,000 within the last three months.—Mr. Rubinstein said he had received a letter from the debtor. It was not addressed, but was dated the 4th inst.—The letter was then handed to the chairman, who read it to the meeting. It was to the effect that the debtor was not in England, and intended to remain until after the new trial of the breach of promise action, for which he expected to obtain leave short, when he would surrender himself for examination.—Mr. H. Jones pointed out that the notice of application for a new trial was only lodged on the day before the first meeting, and evidently with the intention of influencing the proceedings. If the debtor submitted himself and his estate to the court in the usual way, no doubt any application he might make would receive consideration. At present, however, he (Mr. Jones) contended that the debtor was altogether in contempt, and he must ask that the proceedings should take the usual course.

The chairman observed that no evidence had been tendered as to the debtor's inability to attend, and the meeting would therefore be concluded. The next proceeding would be the public examination, which was fixed for the following day; and if the debtor did not attend it would be the duty of the official receiver to apply for a warrant for his arrest.—Mr. Rubinstein remarked that his client had a mass of material to show that a gross miscarriage of justice had taken place in the breach of promise action.—The chairman replied that this was not a matter with which the official receiver could deal.—Mr. Rubinstein submitted that it was the duty of the official receiver to see that no excessive claims were admitted.—The Chairman: I have no evidence that the claim of the petitioning creditor is excessive. It is the duty of the debtor to surrender for examination under these proceedings, and I would suggest that, if he does not attend on Tuesday, you should be prepared with some better evidence of his inability to do so than has been offered to me, or the consequences may be serious.

ISSUE OF A WARRANT.

At the sitting for public examination on the following day, Mr. Rubinstein, in reply to the registrar, said he was instructed to apologise for his client's non-attendance, on the ground of his continued ill-health. Mr. Duncan was a gentleman 70 years of age, and he had been completely prostrated by the result of the recent trial. There was only one creditor in the case, and he (Mr. Rubinstein) submitted that a short adjournment would not prejudice any one. At the request of the registrar, the learned gentleman then read his letter which he had received from his client, and which had been already published

LAST WEEK'S ITEMS.

The reports of the discovery of gold at Saratoga, in Carbon county, Wyoming, are confirmed.

Over 300 girls employed in a cigarette factory at New York have struck, because their employers refused to recognise the union.

On Saturday, Mr. E. Brodie House, M.P., presided at the opening of a new hall and parish-room in connection with St. Mary's Church, Kilburn.

The Queen of Roumania arrived in Edinburgh from Balmoral on Saturday, and was cheered by a large crowd of citizens who had assembled at the railway station.

A coroner's jury at Liverpool on Saturday returned a verdict of wilful murder against Robert Jones, who fatally stabbed Sarah Scarisbrick, a widow, aged 36, with whom he cohabited.

The members of the British Iron and Steel Institute, left New York on Saturday on a trip to the south-west. Including 573 foreign delegates, the party numbered 633.

Mr. Herbert Gladstone, M.P., opened a new club at Bacup on Saturday, and addressed a public meeting. He said that when Home Rule had been settled there were many social labour questions awaiting their party.

George Fredder, of the Laurels, High-road, Stamford Hill, was found by the police on Saturday lying in Queen-street, Chesham, in an insensible condition. He was taken to St. Bartholomew's Hospital.

On Saturday George Kussell, of Bell-street, West Greenwich, was jammed between a coal truck and a wall at a coal wharf at Greenwich, and sustained a severe injury. He was admitted to the local hospital.

On Saturday George Washington, carman of Rivershall-street, Wandsworth, fell from the shaft of his cart and fractured his knee cap. He will probably have to remain in the local hospital for the next six weeks.

Harry Edwards, son of a painter, living at John's Place, Grange-road, Bermondsey, complained of pains in his head on Saturday, and went to bed. Shortly afterwards he was foaming at the mouth, and died in two hours.

Emily Willis, 21, a domestic servant, has been remanded at Croydon on a charge of stealing a number of articles, valued at £1, the property of Dr. William Legge Reid, of 36, Dingwall-road, Croydon, her employer.

On Saturday, Samuel Stanbury, 38, ship's carpenter, of East Ferry-road, Poplar, fell down a hatchway on board a ship at Millwall. He was taken to the London Hospital with a broken thigh bone and other injuries.

A baby, apparently about two days old, has been found in the lavatory at the Custom House Station of the Great Eastern Railway. The child was dressed in an old red skirt and fur cap. It was taken to the West Ham Workhouse.

At the Croydon Petty Sessions, Mr. Marshall Hall, barrister, attended on behalf of the Carshalton School Board, to prosecute a number of persons for neglecting to send their children to school. Small fines were inflicted.

At a meeting of the Northumberland coal-owners in Newcastle in reference to an application of the miners, it was decided to grant an advance of 1½ per cent. in wages, thus making an advance of 50 per cent. since October, 1888.

At the Cardiff Police Court a milk vendor named Charles Lane, of 65, Glamorgan-street, Cardiff, has been fined 25 and costs, or a month's imprisonment with hard labour, for selling milk at his house while the inmates were suffering from diphtheria.

Myers Zuch, aged 7 years, a schoolboy, the son of Jewish parents, living in Brick-lane, Spitalfields, was lifting a kettle of boiling water when it tipped over, scalding him so badly that he had to be provided with a bed at the London Hospital.

Sir Andrew Fairbairn on Saturday addressed a meeting of the South Shields Conservatives and Liberal-Unionists in reference to his becoming the Unionist candidate for the borough at the next general election. A resolution promising to support him was carried unanimously.

The Glasgow steamer Ardanham, Captain Copp, arrived at Queenstown, on Saturday, having in tow the Norwegian barque Drafn, which was picked up derelict on the 28th ult., 400 miles west of the Fastnet. The Drafn was on a voyage from Pugwash, N.S., to Liverpool with draughts.

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On Saturday morning the attention of a City constable was called to a man lying on the pavement near Moorgate-street Station. His nose was broken, and he appeared badly injured, but the constable could not ascertain how he came by the injuries. The man died soon afterwards. He was apparently about 65 years old, and shabbily dressed in black.

On Saturday Joseph Williams, of 25, Theobalds-road, Holloway, was attacked at the German Hospital, Dalston, suffering from severe wounds in the head. He was attacked in Graham-road, Dalston, by some roughs, who immediately made off when a gentleman who was passing interfered and informed the police, who conveyed the poor fellow to the hospital.

Adole Spitzedorf, who, it is stated, has twice been convicted for keeping fraudulent banks, has, it is reported, left Munich with the proceeds of another such imposition, taking with her 10,000 marks, which various people had deposited with her on promise of exorbitant interest. Two depositors followed her and compelled her to disburse the amount of their deposits.

A SHOT FROM A TRAIN.

As the 10.30 a.m. train from Manchester to Wigan was passing Brindley Heath on the 4th inst., a plate-layer was seriously wounded by a shot apparently fired from a train. Subsequently a boy passenger was found to have gun and ammunition in his possession. He said that shot was fired from the carriage window by a stranger, who asked to look at the gun, and who left the train at Pendlebury. The injured plate-layer lies in Salford Hospital.

Henry Coleman, aged 8, of Stanford-street, Westminister, was bitten on the 4th inst. by a large dog in Vincent-square. The boy's injuries were attended to at Westminster Hospital.

DR. DE JONCH'S LIGHT-BROWN COD LIVER OIL.—ITS EQUALLED EFFICACY IN CASES OF CHRONIC COUGH.—This celebrated Oil has been most extensively used in the treatment of Chronic Cough, and effectively cures the most violent and protracted cases of the disease. It is a pale-yellow oil, which is easily absorbed by the mucous surfaces of the throat and bronchial tubes, and speedily allays the irritation which causes the cough. It is also a valuable remedy for the cure of Consumption, and is recommended by the Hospital for Diseases of the Throat and Chest, writes:—"I have long been aware of the value of Dr. de Jonch's Oil in the cure of Chronic Cough, and have recommended it with the utmost confidence to all my patients in stating my opinion that it is equal to any other oil of the same class in its medicinal value. Its taste is by no means disagreeable, and might even be called pleasant. I can fully believe that it will prove a valuable remedy in the cure of Consumption, and I have no doubt that it will be equally successful in the cure of other diseases of the respiratory organs." Dr. H. H. Hart, of Boston, Mass., writes:—"I have long been aware of the value of Dr. de Jonch's Oil in the cure of Chronic Cough, and have recommended it with the utmost confidence to all my patients in stating my opinion that it is equal to any other oil of the same class in its medicinal value. Its taste is by no means disagreeable, and might even be called pleasant. I can fully believe that it will prove a valuable remedy in the cure of Consumption, and I have no doubt that it will be equally successful in the cure of other diseases of the respiratory organs."

It has been announced that Inspector G. Dickinson, who has been attached to the Bermondsey police force for over 20 years, has retired on pension of £100 a year. Mr. Dickinson was highly respected by the inhabitants of Bermondsey.

How doth a little "Petrolite" Improve the waster! Improve all the day From all who try its power.

MAHONY'S FRESH LIQUID POWDER.—A non-astringent cleanser, gives rubbing and scrubbing, sold everywhere in jars, pots, or four pds. in Cases, &c.—Works, Augustus-st., N.W.—(Adv.)

THE VOLUNTEERS.

The first Saturday in October, which is the last month of the Volunteer year, invariably witnesses an increase of activity among the Volunteers, the principal reason being the necessity of getting up to the parades those laggards who in every corps have a certain number of drills to put in before they are qualified for the efficiency certificate. This outburst has been most noticeable in the west and south of the metropolitan area, the Victorians and St. George's Rifles having planned a combined march out to Ealing, the 1st Surrey Rifles a field-day on Wimbledon Common, the 17th Middlesex Rifles at Caterham, and representatives of many other metropolitan corps at the Volunteer tournament at the Royal Military Exhibition.

THE TOURNAMENT.

The most important event of the day was the tournament, no fewer than twenty-one separate contests being on the programme for competition. The aggregate value of the money prizes amounted to £50, besides which there were fifteen prizes not money prizes, but consisting of articles of value and usefulness.

In all there were over sixty prizes confined to Volunteers. Almost all the Volunteer corps within the metropolitan area, in addition to many others, were represented in the contests, only those that had parade orders for the day not being presented.

For this reason the athletes of the famous school of the London Rifle Brigade were unable to be present. In other circumstances some of the results might have been different.

In the arena were the stewards and judges, which included Colonel Tully, 4th East Surrey; Colonel Wickenden, 3rd V.B. Royal Fusiliers; Colonel Gray, 2nd (South) Middlesex, and many other well-known officers of Volunteers. General Lord Chelmsford was a spectator of the sports, and at the close of the prizes were presented by him on behalf of the committee of the Royal Military Exhibition. The most interesting of the contests of a specially Volunteer character were the cyclist contests, the tugs of war, the marching order races with obstacles, and the cadet races, all of which were greatly appreciated by the very large assemblage of visitors gathered round the arena. The half-mile race in marching order with obstacles resulted in three prizes being won respectively by Private Boome, 2nd V.B. Royal Fusiliers, Private Slape, 17th Middlesex, and Gunnar Cooper, City of London A.V. In the obstacle race at 315 yards, Gunnar Baker, 3rd Kent, won first prize; and the four prizes for the cadets were won respectively by Private Cole, Mayall College Corps (4th K.W. Surrey), Private Wadham, Private Norman, and Private Atterbury (of the 1st Cadet Battalion East Surrey Regiment). The leading feature of the half-mile bicycle handicap was the splendid riding of Private Walker, of the 26th Middlesex Cyclist Corps.

The most interesting event was the tug-of-war contested between teams of ten men each, representing the following corps:—4th V.B. East Surrey Regiment, coached by Sergeant Marsh; the 3rd Kent (R.A.) Artillery, coached by the famous repository non-commissioned officer, Sergeant-major Horne; the 2nd Middlesex Artillery, and the 3rd London Rifles, coached by Colour-sergeant Clode.

The ball was opened by the Arsenal men and the 4th East Surrey team, which secured the victory. Hereafter they hoped to form a lending library which would enable the parishioners to take the books to their own homes. The newspapers and periodicals that would be placed before the inhabitants would also represent every school of thought and politics.

Having spoken of the donations and assistance given by several of the ratepayers to the movement, he expressed a hope that every book and periodical which was put before the readers would be healthful and elevating in its character. Libraries were of immense value to the nation. Education at the present day was much more thorough and prevalent than formerly. It was absolutely necessary that those who had studied and perfected their intellectual faculties should have the opportunity of using them in the right direction. The only way to prevent the reading of an inferior class of books by the young was to put good literature before them.—Mr. Johnston moved a hearty vote of thanks to the commissioners for the services they had rendered to the parish in the management of the movement up to the present time. He said that the greatest wealth of this or any other nation must be found in the minds of its citizens, and not in any material form. As their minds were enlightened, and as they understood the great questions which came before them, so would they be able to hold their position among the nations of the world. The library was intended to fulfil the legitimate wants both of old and young.—The Rev. H. Shrimpton seconded the motion, and after several other speakers had addressed the meeting it was carried with unanimous.

The Glasgow steamer Ardanham, Captain Copp, arrived at Queenstown, on Saturday, having in tow the Norwegian barque Drafn, which was picked up derelict on the 28th ult., 400 miles west of the Fastnet. The Drafn was on a voyage from Pugwash, N.S., to Liverpool with draughts.

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CONCERTS FOR THE PEOPLE.

With the near approach of the winter season comes the announcement in connection with the various movements to provide popular evening entertainments at little, and in many cases no cost to the entertained.

Last year we called attention to the good work done at the Dartmouth Hall, Westminster, under the direction of Mr. W. Anson, and on the 4th inst. the ninth season of these concerts was inaugurated, a characteristically attractive programme bringing its reward in the shape of a large and appreciative audience.

He who started from scratch; 3rd, Private Sinclair, P.O. Rifles, 60 yards start; 4th, Private Scriven, 4th V.B. Surrey, 55 yards start.

The hurdle race finally resulted in the win of 1st prize by Private Turk, Civil Service Rifles; 2nd, Corporal Cowling, 3rd V.B. Essex; 3rd, Private Liddiard, London Scottish. After the race was therefore accorded to the Surrey team, and the second, of £2, to the London team.

The two final competitions were the bicycle handicap (half-mile); and the hurdle race of 100 yards with five flights. The prizes in the former were won as follows:—1st, Sergeant Tonkin, P.O. Rifles (60 yards start); 2nd, Private Walker, 25th Middlesex; Cyclists.

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The two final competitions were the bicycle handicap (half

TERRIBLE POWDER EXPLOSION. ELEVEN PERSONS KILLED.—TWENTY INJURED.

Several terrific explosions have occurred in quick succession at the Dupont Powder Works, near Wilmington, Delaware. The whole section, known as the upper yard, was completely wrecked. One of the magazines exploded first, and the rolling and drying mills near by were set off by the concussion. Nearly every dwelling in the neighbourhood is reported to be damaged, and the explosion started the inhabitants for many miles round. Ten persons were killed, all of whom were employees. Fifty families have been rendered homeless by the explosion, the shock of which was plainly felt at Philadelphia. Several workmen are still missing, and are believed to have been blown to atoms. Some of the members of the firm were injured, among them being Mr. Eugene Dupont, the chief proprietor, but none sustained serious hurt. The Dupont Mills extend along the Brandywine River for a distance of two miles, within which space there are fifty houses inhabited by the workpeople. All these dwellings were wrecked, and the force of the explosion was so great that the windows of the houses in several parts of Wilmington were shattered. The offices of the Dupont Company were transferred into a complete ruin, and six mills were entirely destroyed. The first explosion, it is now said, occurred in one of the packing mills, whereas a workman was receiving a can of hexagonal powder, which was to be shipped for use by the Government. The scene about the mills is one of utter desolation, and men and women are wandering around the spot lamenting and moaning. Where the magazine once stood is now a gaping hole. The earth for acres round presents the appearance of having been dragged by a gigantic harrow. A thick growth of trees which covered the approach to the mills on three sides had been mown down like grass, and residences half a mile distant have been demolished. This is the most serious explosion which has taken place for half a century. Measurably, Dupont have been fulfilling extensive contracts for the United States government. One body has been found with the head severed from the trunk. The loss of property is estimated at half a million of dollars.

DISCOURAGING ATTENDANCE—97,397 ARTISANS DAILY.

This year for the first time there was an actual decrease of 652 in the number of boys and of 407 in the number of girls attending the senior departments; but in the total number of 345,745 children these decreases were counterbalanced by an increase of 924 in mixed, and of 3,620 in infants' classes. Children, it was clear, were beginning school earlier and leaving it earlier than heretofore. The percentage of the average attendance which last year was 78.7, this year was only 78 per cent. From 1870 up to the present time the percentage had never risen above 80.5. Every day there were 97,397 children absent from the elementary schools, which meant that seven years of school life was practically reduced to five and a half years. The year to March last showed comparatively a decrease of 24,000 in fees, with an increase of 3,200 children.

TEASER'S IMPROVEMENT IN EFFICIENCY. Of the 1,025 departments reported upon in 1889, eighty-seven which were then classed as good, and one classed as fair, were now reported to be excellent; while only fourteen which were then excellent had this year received the lower mark of good. Of the thirty-one departments, then classed as fair, one had been reported upon as excellent, and eighteen had raised themselves to good, while only seven departments had failed from good to fair. For the year ended the 25th of March, 1889, the number of departments receiving the fair merit grant was 104; the number now is only nineteen.

INDUSTRIAL, BLIND, AND DEAF AND DUMB SCHOOLS.

There was increasing attendance at the evening schools. In 1884 the average attendance numbered 1,440; in 1886, 4,659; and this year, 6,768. The board had determined on the establishment of two day industrial schools. There were five assistant teachers engaged in teaching 135 blind children; and thirty-four assistant, six ex-pupil teachers, and two pupil teachers engaged in teaching 425 deaf and dumb children, with a separate superintendent of each work. The cost per blind child per annum was £10 17s. 4d.; and of the deaf and dumb £3 2s. 2d.

INCREASED EXPENDITURE.—THE JEWELL BUILT SCHOOLS.

The total expenditure for the year ended 25th March, 1890, was £1,700,000; the number of children in average attendance was 345,532, or an increase in the number of children of 3,211, and in expenditure of £132,000. A sum of over £283,000 was absorbed for the payment of interest on loans and for their repayment. During the past year a sum of £23,500 or £13,000 more than in the preceding year had been expended upon the erection of school buildings in excess of the sum of £10 per unit of accommodation allowed by the Education Department to raise by way of loan. Moreover, there had been an increase of £28,000 in the cost of repairs to school buildings and furniture. The annual cost under that head was now £75,000, or a sum of nearly £200 for every school under the board. Although some cost had been incurred in putting upon a better basis the sanitary arrangements of the earlier schools built under the board, the greater proportion of it had been spent upon work which ought not now to be needed if the original work had been satisfactorily performed. The forty-eight schools opened in 1885 and 1886 cost in the year ended 25th March, 1890, £383 cost in the proceeding year £3,000. Upon one of these schools at least £2,500 would have to be spent during the current year; and there were several others upon which a considerable but as yet unascertained expenditure would be necessary. And when this expenditure had taken place the schools must always remain a greater source of expense to the Board than would have been the case if they had been soundly built in the first instance.—Mr. Barnes, one of the members of the Marylebone Division, gave on paper an emphatic denial to the suggestion of Mr. John Lobb, that he had used his position for the purposes of political propaganda when attending meetings of local managers in other divisions than that for which he is a member.

THE DOCTOR AND THE WATER COMPANY.

Mr. Wynne E. Baxter, coroner for East London, held an adjourned inquest at the Poplar Town Hall, respecting the death of Andrew Llewellyn Thomas Eakin, aged 12 weeks, the son of Mr. Samuel Eakin, M.D., of 451, Manchester-road, Poplar.—Mr. Samuel Eakin, M.D., deposed that on Sunday, the 28th September, the deceased was taken ill with vomiting and diarrhoea, and died on Thursday, the 30th ult.—Dr. Boyle, 123, West Ferry-road, deposed that death was due to exhaustion from choleraic diarrhoea, and all probability that was due to the water supply being cut off from Dr. Eakin's house, under the circumstances already reported.—Mr. Keble, on behalf of the water company, having quoted the Acts of Parliament showing that the occupier of a house was liable for the rate, except where the house was assessed under £20, the jury returned a verdict that "death was due to choleraic diarrhoea, due to the water being cut off."

The Crystal Palace autumn fruit show, which opened on Thursday, although not remarkable for the number of entries, was above the average in excellence, despite the fact that the season has been an unusually poor one for the chief exhibits—apples. The character of the show was the more creditable, coming as it did immediately after the great fruit exhibition at the Guildhall.

LONDON SCHOOL BOARD.

THE ANNUAL STATEMENT. The School Board for London re-assembled at the offices on the Thames Embankment on Thursday, the chairman, the Rev. J. R. Dingle, made an interesting statement. The board, he said, were responsible for the education of sixty-seven out of every 100 children attending the elementary schools of London. Every year the board met about forty times, and committee meetings numbered about 700 per annum—which meant a deal of work for the fifty-five members of the board. When ever any increase in the board's expenditure appeared, the public blamed indiscriminately the inhabitants for many miles round. Ten persons were killed, all of whom were employees. Fifty families have been rendered homeless by the explosion, the shock of which was plainly felt at Philadelphia. Several workmen are still missing, and are believed to have been blown to atoms. Some of the members of the firm were injured, among them being Mr. Eugene Dupont, the chief proprietor, but none sustained serious hurt. The Dupont Mills extend along the Brandywine River for a distance of two miles, within which space there are fifty houses inhabited by the workpeople. All these dwellings were wrecked, and the force of the explosion was so great that the windows of the houses in several parts of Wilmington were shattered. The offices of the Dupont Company were transferred into a complete ruin, and six mills were entirely destroyed. The first explosion, it is now said, occurred in one of the packing mills, whereas a workman was receiving a can of hexagonal powder, which was to be shipped for use by the Government. The scene about the mills is one of utter desolation, and men and women are wandering around the spot lamenting and moaning. Where the magazine once stood is now a gaping hole. The earth for acres round presents the appearance of having been dragged by a gigantic harrow. A thick growth of trees which covered the approach to the mills on three sides had been mown down like grass, and residences half a mile distant have been demolished. This is the most serious explosion which has taken place for half a century. Measurably, Dupont have been fulfilling extensive contracts for the United States government. One body has been found with the head severed from the trunk. The loss of property is estimated at half a million of dollars.

PROVISION FOR LONDON'S NEEDS. London now had 630,423 places in elementary schools. The number which was required by the Education Department was 630,057, and 17,643 school places were in course of completion. The department estimated that there were upwards of 11,000 children of the poorer classes for whom education must be annually provided. The School Board officers found that the ratio of increase was by no means a steady average of 12,000 per year. In the last twelve years, it had twice fallen below 2,000; it had been once 5,000; and once 12,000. But it had been five times between 14,000 and 20,000; it had been once 21,000, once 22,000, and once 27,000. The yearly average for the eight years during which the departmental estimate had been repeated in the blue book had been 15,000. The increase, moreover, was distinctly confined to certain districts. Children to the number of 5,000 not living in London attended London schools. Unless numbers of non-board schools ceased to exist no material increase of the existing school provision would be needed. Since last year 1,821 school places (the total now provided being 260,442—less than in 1870) in such schools had closed.

DISCOURAGING ATTENDANCE—97,397 ARTISANS DAILY.

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THE SEIZURE OF DYNAMITE. John Payne, 43, waiter, of no fixed abode, was charged at the Westminster Police Court, on Thursday, with stealing wearing apparel, &c., value £50, the property of the Hon. Frederic Henley, J.P., for Northamptonshire; also with stealing cutlery and plate belonging to Mr. John Bissett, builder, of Half Moon-street, Piccadilly. There were further charges against the prisoner of stealing, on the 1st of last February, from 14, Michael's Grove, Brompton, jewellery of the value of £20 belonging to Mr. John Hamlyn Borrer, J.P., and an sister coat, value £25, the property of Mr. Henry A. Tinker, architectural student. Evidence was given that the prisoner was engaged, early in February last, as manservant by the proprietress of a boarding house in Michael's Grove, Brompton, and that he absconded three weeks afterwards with valuable property belonging to the lodgers—Mr. Borrer, justice of the peace for Gloucestershire, and residing at Angerton Grange, Dursley, said that the property stolen from his room consisted of an ox牙 and diamond brooch, a watch, a bracelet, and pin. The jewellery was taken from a dressing-table.—Det.-supt. Maguire said that on the 1st of February last the first larceny was reported to the police, and Mr. Borrer's watch was discovered pawned in Leicester-square. The pawnbroker ultimately gave it up. The prisoner could not be found at the time, and had since obtained other situations, where he had committed robberies. From information obtained, the witness watched a library at Battersea to which letters could be addressed, and arrested the prisoner as he was leaving, informing him that he would be charged, not only with the Michael's Grove robbery, but with a subsequent larceny at Half Moon-street. When about to be searched the prisoner handed over two plated ladies' and a sugar-sifter, besides forty-two pawn tickets, most of them relating to the property stolen from Half Moon-street.—Prisoner, who said nothing, was remanded for a week.

DRAMATIC DENOUEMENT.

In connection with a charge of larceny preferred by the Great Western Railway Company against one of its officials, named Christopher Reilly, a warrant was recently granted by Mr. De Rutzen for the arrest of Mr. Frederick Appleby, contractor, of Appleby House, Rusholme, near Manchester, for receiving at the resumed hearing at the Manchester Police Court, Mr. F. W. Mills, solicitor to the company, informed the magistrate that Sergeant Wright had been to Manchester, and had found that Mr. Appleby was very ill. Two doctors had certified that he might be removed; in fact he was in a critical condition.—Mr. Freke Palmer, who appeared for Mr. Appleby, stated that this was so. His client would surrender himself as soon as he was well enough, for he had a complete answer to the charge.—Mr. De Rutzen thereupon again remanded the prisoner for a week, offering to admit him to bail in £200. Later in the afternoon Mr. Freke Palmer received a telegram from Manchester announcing that Mr. Appleby had died. Reilly, who is 46 years of age, was chief messenger in the secretary's department of the company, and was alleged to have stolen £100 worth of postage stamps. The evidence was that there had been a serious loss of stamps from time to time, and that Benton, one of the company's detectives, was set to watch the prisoner. The officer secured himself in one of the offices, and early one morning last week saw Reilly go to a drawer in the secretary's room, open it with a key, and abstract therefrom some stamps. Benton emerged from his hiding place and demanded an explanation, whereupon Reilly at once gave up the stamps, which, like all others used in the office, were perforated with the initials of the company. Reilly was taken to the office of Mr. Superintendent Saunders, to whom he admitted the offence, adding that he had previously done the same thing, and had given a few to a guard. He also said he had borrowed money of Mr. Fredk. Appleby, of Appleby House, Rusholme, near Manchester, and had paid him back by sending him postage stamps, which he had stolen from the secretary's office from time to time. He further asserted that he had a receipt signed by Mr. Appleby acknowledging the remittance.—Reilly was then given into the custody of Det.-supt. Wright, F Division.

CHARGED WITH STEALING?

No.—Have you been sent to the Old Bailey? Yes.—What were you charged at the Old Bailey? With? I was accused of obtaining things dishonestly.—Why did you run away from your own country? I ran away from Russia because my wife is a very rich woman. (Laughter.)

—In reply to further questions, he said he did not owe Count de Leiningen one cent. He did not conduct himself at the railway station as excited as he had in court. The count did not ask him to be kind enough to pay for the board and lodgings he had had. He never lived with him. He really was afraid of Mandell, and very much afraid of the count.

Count de Leiningen: He has been an officer in the Army, sir.—Mandell: And he is twice as old as me.—Robert John Vivers, merchant, of 1 Seething-lane, who accompanied De Photo to the railway station, said that he heard the defendants threaten to kill the complainant. Their exact words were, "If you don't pay us this money, we shall poison you and be the cause of your death." They tried to get into the complainant's house.—By Mr. Abrahams: He was a soap and glue merchant, and was in partnership with De Pohitonoff.—Thought you were a soap and glue merchant? Yes; and I am going to be a tea merchant as well.—Anthony Flatow, 59, Mark-lane, City, gave similar evidence as to the alleged theft. To get rid of the count for the time being, witness promised to arrange the money matter with him the next day.—By Mr. Abrahams: He was also in partnership with De Pohitonoff.—As a matter of fact, then, this firm has three addresses? No, the houses, 1 Seething-lane, and 59, Mark-lane are one and the same. In Mark-lane it is Flatow and Co., and in Chancery-lane, De Pohitonoff and Co. Vivers and I have been in partnership about eighteen months, and De Pohitonoff has only lately started.—This closed the complainant's case.—Mr. Abrahams, in addressing the bench, said that he surrounded as his friend was with the assistance of a combination of three gentlemen, one a tea merchant, one a glue merchant, and the other a soap merchant, it seemed to him that the case they had made out was that the parties accidentally met at the railway station, and that some expression about murder or poison was made use of. The threat was looked upon by the complainant with more seriousness than it deserved, for his client had no intention of doing him any harm.—"

It was quite evident that the defendant

had greatly exaggerated the affair. For the

case of the bench said that he had never

seen such a suggestion before.—

—The bench said that the prisoner had no

intention to sever his connection with the

association. Thereupon the revising barrister observed:—"Next year, if I catch any person

doing this sort of thing, I shall make them

pay every penny that the law allows me, to the extent of £5."

LORD HARRIS ON CRICKET.

Mr. Justice Holmes on Thursday refused an application to admit to bail Michael Barry, sen., Michael Barry, jun., and John Barry, who were charged with having dynamite in their possession for an unlawful purpose, in co. Clare. The prisoners' defence was that the dynamite had been kept for blasting purposes; but it appeared from the depositions that for the past ten years the prisoners had not used any dynamite for blasting.

A POLICEMAN SENT TO GAOL.

At Liverpool, on Thursday, a member of the city police, named Elam Hockridge, was sent to gaol for three months for stealing a case containing several bottles of whisky, which was in custody of the Dundalk and Newry Steam Packet Company, in their shed at Nelson Dock. The prisoner, while on duty at the shed, was detected by another officer with the case in his possession. He had been nine months in the force, and was once fined for drunkenness. He was formerly in the Royal Artillery.

ROBBING COUNTRY JUSTICES.

John Payne, 43, waiter, of no fixed abode, was charged at the Westminster Police Court, on Thursday, with stealing wearing apparel, &c., value £50, the property of the Hon. Frederic Henley, J.P., for Northamptonshire; also with stealing cutlery and plate belonging to Mr. John Bissett, builder, of Half Moon-street, Piccadilly. There were further charges against the prisoner of stealing, on the 1st of last February, from 14, Michael's Grove, Brompton, jewellery of the value of £20 belonging to Mr. John Hamlyn Borrer, J.P., and an sister coat, value £25, the property of Mr. Henry A. Tinker, architectural student.

THE LADY AND THE CONSTABLE.

"If there are two classes of men that I see, they are soldiers and policemen," observed Mrs. Blanche Stanfield, immediately before she was conducted to the dock at Bow-street Police Court by Assistant-major Bush, on the charge of being drunk and disorderly in Northumberland Avenue.

"Leave go my arm, sir. How dare you touch me?" she said, as Bush escorted her to the dock. "Mind the step?" replied the gaoler.

"What is your name?"—Defendant: Never you mind. I can prove to the magistrate what my name is. I had with this remark instead of facing the magistrate, she turned her back on the bench, and gazed on the public in court. After some persuasion Bush induced her to turn round, and P.C. 428 E proceeded to detail her offences. She appeared to have been found, accompanied by three children, sitting on a doorstep in Northumberland Avenue, and when requested to leave she commenced shouting and using most abusive language, causing a large crowd to assemble. Defendant: Oh, you liar. (To the magistrate): Why I've been a total abstainer all my life.

had taken one of her husband's men with her to bring home the pony and trap. When she came out of defendant's house it was raining

very fast, and defendant had no occasion to use the whip. She thought it was a nice little pony (which defendant said he had had two years), and she reported to her husband when she returned home. Plaintiff himself went to the defendant next day and was driven about with the same pony. Plaintiff was highly satisfied with it, and another trap was substituted, purchased the whole for £22, paying £5 on account. The next day plaintiff's wife went to defendant's premises to complete the purchase. She was received with great courtesy, was invited to take tea, and was supplied with strawberries, &c. She had taken one of her husband's men with her to bring home the pony and trap. When she came out of defendant's house it was raining

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LAST WEEK'S POLICE.

Mansion House.

ALLEGED FRAUDULENT POSSESSION OF FOREIGN BONDS.—A middle-aged Frenchman, of very gentlemanly appearance, named Louis Pugno, was brought before Alderman Renals, charged with having unlawfully in his possession a number of bonds of the *Agence Havre* and other French associations, supposed to form a portion of a number of other foreign bonds which were mysteriously stolen in Paris in the month of September last. Mr. Chandler, solicitor, appeared for the defendant.—For some time past the City police authorities have been in the receipt of information of extensive robberies of bonds in Paris and other places on the continent, and the matter was placed in the hands of Sergeants Outram and Roper, City detectives, for inquiries.—They went on Friday afternoon to an office in Queen-street, and saw the prisoner come out and followed him to Pancras-lane, where he went into another office, and when he came out they stopped him, and asked him if he had any bonds in his possession, at the same time telling him that they had received information that he had been attempting to negotiate such bonds and obtain money upon them.—The defendant at once produced a number of bonds, and on comparing them with the numbers of bonds represented to have been stolen in the French *Bulletin Officiel*, he discovered that they corresponded with the numbers of the stolen bonds. The prisoner said when he asked him how the bonds came into his possession, that he had received them from a person he knew in Leadenhall-street, and he admitted that his instructions were either to sell the bonds or raise money on them. The officers asked that the defendant should be remanded, in order that the French authorities might be communicated with.—In reply to Mr. Chandler, Sergeant Outram stated that the defendant admitted at once that he had the bonds in his possession.—Prisoner was remanded, bail being refused.

Guildhall.

ALLEGED SERIOUS FALSE PRETENCES.—Arthur Hertz, 26, a merchant, of St. Helen's, was remanded upon the charge of having obtained from Pompilio Valenzuela, a merchant, of Honduras, two cheques value £1,200 and £400 by false pretences.—The cheques were given to the prisoner by the prosecutor on condition that he should obtain certain goods for him on credit from several large warehouses in the City, at which he said he had accounts.—Prosecutor was also led to believe that accused had a balance of £5,000 at the Bank of England, but after he had parted with the cheques he ascertained that that was not correct, neither was it a fact that he had credit accounts at ware houses.—Prosecutor had not recovered the amounts of the cheques, and it was stated that there was no likelihood of his doing so.

Marlborough-street.

A PICCADILLY FIGHT.—Maria Arndt, a young woman from Frith-street, and Amelia Grandt, Southampton-row, were charged with being disorderly by fighting each other in Piccadilly, at half-past ten o'clock on Friday night. Grandt was said to have obtained an unavoidable notoriety from the part she took in the Lagmann tracey a short time ago.—P.S. 38 C said he found the prisoners surrounded by a crowd of about a hundred persons. They were "squaring up," and tugging and pulling and scratching as best they could. On making his way through the crowd of people, Arndt accused Grandt of having stolen her umbrella. As both of them were disorderly he marched the pair to the station. The gingham was pitched amongst the crowd, and was smashed to atoms, only part of the handle (produced) being secured.—Cross examined by Mr. Arthur Newton for Arndt, the sergeant said that Arndt did not complain of Grandt having assaulted her. She charged Grandt with having taken her umbrella. He did not take Arndt into custody, but told her she must consider herself in his charge for fighting. He did not wound at first that Arndt had an open wound on her hand, but he saw, when at the station, that she had been injured on her wrist.—By Mr. Leslie: Grandt said that Arndt had struck her on the face with her umbrella, and was going to repeat the blow, when she defended herself. Mr. Newton said that when Arndt met Grandt the latter struck her, and made a serious mark on her wrist. Then Arndt unfortunately lost her temper and retaliated. She desired, through him, to express her regret (Arndt here burst into tears) at finding her client in such a position.—Mr. Leslie said his client was not the aggressor. Arndt asked her to have a drink, but as Arndt had molested her on a former occasion, she declined the invitation, whereupon Arndt turned and gave her a blow in the face with her umbrella. Hence the fight as described.—Mr. Newton: Have either of those women been here before?—Sergeant Brewer (the gaoler): Arndt has, but I am not certain about the other.—Mr. Newton: Very well; Arndt will pay 20s. or fourteen days, and Grandt 10s. or seven days.

SCENE IN A LODGING-HOUSE.—Two young fellows named Henry Smith and John Hayes, were charged with attempting to rescue a prisoner from the custody of Detective Storey, and with assaulting him and Detectives Humphreys and Ebbsage, who were accompanying him.—Storey said that at half-past one o'clock that morning he and the two other detectives proceeded to a common lodging-house in the Charing Cross-road for the purpose of arresting a man on a charge of highway robbery with violence. They found the man they wanted, and ordered him to leave his bed and dress, and he obeyed at once. When he had dressed, Smith jumped out of bed, blew out the lights, and shouted, "Come on, lads; don't let them take him." At the same time he drew out a stick from beneath the mattress and dealt witness a heavy blow with it on the shoulders and succeeded in dragging the man away. The witness rushed to the door, struck a light, and made another attempt to secure the prisoner. Smith then attacked Humphreys with the stick, striking him on the back with it, and followed it up with another blow on Ebbsage's hand, and Humphreys then closed with him, and took the stick away, whereupon Hayes shouted, "We've got pokers and sticks here; you won't take neither of them," and he struck witness in the stomach with his fist. The highway robber was then removed to the station, and Hayes and Smith were brought in afterwards.—Humphreys and Ebbsage deposed to the injuries they received from the prisoners.—Smith, in defence, said he was awake by seeing a couple of tall, strange men by the side of his bed. He did not know whether they were detective-men or not, who had come up from the kitchen to have a row, and he drew his stick to defend himself. The detective treated him very roughly, and tore the shirt off his back.—Hayes said the detectives shone a bull's-eye on him as he lay asleep, and nearly frightened the life out of him. He sat up in bed rubbing his eyes, and thinking they were going to kill the man, he shouted for help, and that was all.—As the accused wished to call evidence on their behalf they were remanded for a week.

Marylebone.

A CLUB PROPRIETOR AMONG PRIZE FIGHTERS.—Edward Mugford Hill, 41, proprietor of the Mansion Club, Burne-street, Edgware-road, was brought up on remand on a warrant

charging him with using indecent language to the annoyance of the inhabitants. When placed in the dock on the first occasion the prisoner was robed in a dressing gown with attractive trimmings, and on his unkempt hair he had a white pocket-handkerchief, the corners being tied in a knot, and on the top of that was a fez cap. As the prisoner entered the court he said, in a voice with an American twang, "Where am I to stand? Who's the gentleman on the bench I say? I've just come over from India." (Loud laughter.)—The evidence was that the prisoner was at the second-floor window of his club, which is situated opposite the Edgware-road Railway Station, with his legs hanging out of the window. He attracted a large crowd of persons, and addressing respectable women as they went along, used most disgusting language. He also threw slippers and other missiles. The prisoner's conduct caused great annoyance to the residents of Hyde Park Mansions.—The prisoner, in reply to the charge, said he had not long ago come from the United States, and he hoped he had been conducting himself much better since. In fact, he had been congratulated upon his management. But his manager got drunk, and when he introduced what he called gentlemen they turned out to be fighting men, bookmakers, and betting men. He was told one was Jim Smith and another was Tyson, but he did not know them. The fact was the men who came there did as they liked, and they knocked him (prisoner) about just as they liked. He had to get out of their way and escape from them. Only the other day that occurred, and he was driven nearly mad. These people made the club a sort of Bedlam. They worried him, and made him drink.—Mr. De Rutzen fined him 40s., or one month's imprisonment.

Worship-street.

A SINGULAR CASE.—Thomas Simpson, 43, brushmaker, of Norton Folgate, was charged with having stolen a letter containing a cheque for £2 7s., the property of Leopold Hertz.—A solicitor who appeared for the prosecution said it was a question, whether, in addition to the charge, there should not be another of forging the endorsement to the said cheque and uttering the same. The facts of the case were peculiar. The prisoner and prosecutor occupied offices in the same house, the prisoner being the landlord. Hertz, he said, was indebted to him and he knew that money was due to Hertz from a firm with which both had had dealings.—According to the evidence of a witness named Annie Evans, in the service of Hertz, the prisoner on the 9th of August entered the room Hertz occupied and saw a letter addressed to the prosecutor. The envelope bore the stamp of the firm the prisoner knew had to send money, and picking up the letter, which had not been opened, he said, "This is what I want." He opened the letter, and in the presence of the witness took out the cheque, which he put in his coat pocket. The prosecutor and prisoner met that day, but nothing was said about the cheque. The solicitor explained that the cheque was passed to a bristly merchant named Verinder, of Sun-street, Finsbury, in payment of goods for Simpson, and was then endorsed with Hertz's name.—Hertz was not called, and Mr. Montagu Williams decided to remand the case for fuller investigation.—P.S. 38 C said he found the prisoners surrounded by a crowd of about a hundred persons. They were "squaring up," and tugging and pulling and scratching as best they could. On making his way through the crowd of people, Arndt accused Grandt of having stolen her umbrella. As both of them were disorderly he marched the pair to the station. The gingham was pitched amongst the crowd, and was smashed to atoms, only part of the handle (produced) being secured.—Cross examined by Mr. Arthur Newton for Arndt, the sergeant said that Arndt did not complain of Grandt having assaulted her. She charged Grandt with having taken her umbrella. He did not take Arndt into custody, but told her she must consider herself in his charge for fighting. He did not wound at first that Arndt had an open wound on her hand, but he saw, when at the station, that she had been injured on her wrist.—By Mr. Leslie: Grandt said that Arndt had struck her on the face with her umbrella, and was going to repeat the blow, when she defended herself. Mr. Newton said that when Arndt met Grandt the latter struck her, and made a serious mark on her wrist. Then Arndt unfortunately lost her temper and retaliated. She desired, through him, to express her regret (Arndt here burst into tears) at finding her client in such a position.—Mr. Leslie said his client was not the aggressor. Arndt asked her to have a drink, but as Arndt had molested her on a former occasion, she declined the invitation, whereupon Arndt turned and gave her a blow in the face with her umbrella. Hence the fight as described.—Mr. Newton: Have either of those women been here before?—Sergeant Brewer (the gaoler): Arndt has, but I am not certain about the other.—Mr. Newton: Very well; Arndt will pay 20s. or fourteen days, and Grandt 10s. or seven days.

West London.

THE BETTING NUISANCE.—William John Colley, a waterman, was charged with being concerned with other men in causing an obstruction in Queen-street, Hammersmith, by means of betting.—The case was proved by two police-constables of the H Division, who were sent to Hammersmith from the East-end to be employed on the special duty in consequence of the local men being known to the betting fraternity. On Friday afternoon the prisoner was seen standing outside a public-house in Queen-street, and to receive papers from half-a-dozen other men. He went in and out of the public-house several times, and on the last occasion a lad gave him a paper. The prisoner then said that he was being watched, and ran off into the Duke of Edinburgh beerhouse, where he handed a number of papers to another man. He was taken into custody by one of the constables, who was roughly treated by the men in the beerhouse, and nearly thrown out with violence.—The prisoner denied having been seen with papers, and said he was not betting.—Mr. Curtis Bennett: Then call the man who gave you the papers.—The prisoner gave no response, and the magistrate fined him 2s., or one month's imprisonment.—The fine was immediately paid.

North London.

THE DEATH CERTIFICATE FRAUD.—James William Scarborough, 40, of Clayton-terrace, Upper Holloway, was charged with inciting his wife, Mary Ann Scarborough, to utter a false certificate of death, and to make false declarations in connection with the same.—Mr. H. Hall, who appeared for the Director of Public Prosecutions, said that the wife of the prisoner had been found guilty of uttering a false certificate of death and of making false declarations. Sir Peter Ellin, before whom the woman was tried, deferred sentence until next session, and expressed an opinion that there was another party who had come up from the kitchen to have a row, and he drew his stick to defend himself. The detective treated him very roughly, and tore the shirt off his back.—Hayes said the detective shone a bull's-eye on him as he lay asleep, and nearly frightened the life out of him. He sat up in bed rubbing his eyes, and thinking they were going to kill the man, he shouted for help, and that was all.—As the accused wished to call evidence on their behalf they were remanded for a week.

Mile End.

FATAL QUARREL IN A PUBLIC-HOUSE.—Mr. Wynne E. Baxter, held an inquest at the London Hospital on the body of Francis Cree, a stevedore's labourer, late of Waterloo-place, St. George's-in-the-East.—The widow deposed that on the 23rd ult. she left her husband in the Waterloo public-house, Samuel-street, with a man named William Burt. Hearing he was lying in the hospital she went there. He said "My gossip has broken my leg." She advised him to have the man locked up, but he said, "Don't punish him; leave him to God."—Theodore Earl, manager of the public-house, deposed that, hearing a scuffle in the bar, he went out, and saw a man put his arm under the deceased's chin, and the latter then fell to the ground, ex-

claiming "My leg's broke." Deceased was sober, but witness did not take any notice of the other man's condition. The two men were quarrelling, but witness saw no blows struck.—John Connolly, a dock labourer, deposed that he heard the deceased Burt quarrelling about family matters in the Waterloo. Burt pushed the deceased, who then fell, but witness saw no blows struck.—William Burt, St. George's-court, a carman out of employment, stated that he went into the Waterloo with the deceased and his wife, and they asked him to drink. The wife then left. Witness felt aggrieved because deceased treated him very coolly, and words ensued. Deceased then rose up from his seat and went towards witness, who merely pushed him and said, "Go away, Frank." Deceased fell on the floor and complained that his leg was hurt.—Dr. Smith, house surgeon, deposed that deceased was the worse for drink when admitted, and was suffering from a fracture of the left leg. He died from pneumonia and pleurisy, and delirium tremens, accelerated by the injury.—The jury eventually returned a verdict of accidental death.

DRUNKEN WOMEN SUCCUBATE A CHILD.—Dr. Macdonald held an inquiry concerning the death of Mary Tibbitts, aged one month, the child of a labourer, Great Pearl-street, Spitalfields.—Martha Tibbitts, the mother, deposed that on Thursday morning she went out with the child and a Mrs. Annie Porter. They visited several public-houses. Porter relieved her by carrying the baby at times, and she last gave it to her at the top of Brick-lane about four o'clock in the afternoon. Soon afterwards they lost one another. Witness then made a tour of the houses they had visited, but could not find Porter or the child. About eight o'clock she was passing the Elder Tree, Fleur-de-lis-street, when a strange woman called her in and asked her to have a drink. Porter then came in and witness immediately took the child from her and found that it was dead. She accused Porter of killing it. She was quite sure that the child was alive when she gave it to Porter at four o'clock. Porter was not sober when she came into the Elder Tree.—James Tibbitts, the husband, stated that about half-past eight on Thursday night, while he was having his tea, Porter came in very excited and asked if the mother was home. She had the deceased covered up with a shawl. Witness told her that his wife was not at home, and before he could stop her she rushed away. It did not strike him that his child might be suffocated. His wife came home half an hour later, and said that the child was dead. He told her that she ought to have a good hiding, and that she had killed the child.—Dr. Moore, of Brick-lane, said that about half-past eight on Thursday night he saw the child, which had then been dead some hours. He had made a post-mortem examination, and found that death was due to slow suffocation.—The coroner's officer stated that the woman Porter had been summoned, but had absconded.—The coroner said that a warrant would have to be issued for her arrest, and the inquiry adjourned for her attendance.—Dr. Moore added that when he visited the house Porter was in bed drunk. Mrs. Tibbitts was also under the influence of drink, and had black eye.

A SUICIDE'S STRANGE LETTER.—Mr. Wyatt held an inquest on John Bowden, 73, late of Abbey-street, Bermondsey.—The evidence showed that the deceased served as a juror at the local inquest, and out of late had been very low-spirited on account of his lodgers not paying their rent. He also complained of being hard done by by the landlord, who had given him notice to quit. On Wednesday he struck him on the body with his fist and kicked him.—The sergeant stated that whilst on duty in Kennington Park-road about half-past two o'clock in the morning, he saw the prisoner with two dogs, and asked if they belonged to him. He said they did. Witness asked if he had license, and he said he had. He then inquired if he had muzzles, and he said he had. He produced one muzzle and a dog collar. On the way to the station the prisoner suddenly called out to a man, and struck witness in the ribs and kicked him. There was a struggle, and witness threw the prisoner, and held him until assistance arrived. The dogs appeared to be valuable, and the prisoner gave a very strange story as to how he got them. One of the dogs was blind in the left eye.—The prisoner was remanded, but was admitted to bail.

Greenwich.

A MISSING HUSBAND.—Mrs. Cox, of 63, James-street, Deptford, applied to Mr. Kennedy with reference to her husband, Robert Cox, aged 39, an extra waterman in the Customs, who, she said, left home on Friday, the 26th September, in the evening, to visit a friend in a neighbouring street. He did not return, and on the following morning she made inquiries at the house, and found that he had not been there. She also went to the Custom House, where he had been employed 22 years, and ascertained that he had not been there either. He was seen in High-street, Deptford, at 10.30, on the night that he left home, when he was apparently the worse for liquor. When he left he was wearing blue pilot trousers, speckled tweed waistcoat, black coat with a velvet collar, and lace-up boots. He had dark brown hair, was of light complexion, with fresh colour. He had a beard, but no moustache, or whiskers. They had no quarrel, and she could not account for his disappearance.

Highgate.

HIDING UNDER THE BED.—Thomas Johnson, 27, labourer, of Stanhope, New Southgate, was charged on a warrant, before Mr. John Glover, with non-appearance to a summons for threatening to kill his wife.—Annie Johnson, the prosecutrix, deposed that she had been living apart from her husband for three years, during which time he had not contributed towards her support. On the 13th ult. she went to a shop at the corner of the Avenue, New Southgate, where she lived with her mother. When she came out the prisoner, who was not sober, told her to go in, and raised his hand to hit her. A neighbour prevented him from hitting her, and she took off his belt and said, "I won't do another six months for you; I'll swing for you." He had been in prison for six months for an assault committed soon after she left him. He had repeatedly threatened to kill her, and she was afraid of him.—The prisoner said they were not properly separated; but if the magistrate would write out a piece of paper he would sign it. When he married the prosecutrix he had £25, and she was "all gay" with him while it lasted. When it was gone she took herself off. If he had a proper separation he would observe it for the sake of his child by his first wife.—Prosecutrix said she was anxious for a deed of separation to be drawn up.—Det. Fuller said that he arrested the prisoner at his home. He found him hiding under the bed.—Mr. Glover remanded him in custody.

INQUESTS.

FATAL QUARREL IN A PUBLIC-HOUSE.—Mr. Wynne E. Baxter, held an inquest at the London Hospital on the body of Francis Cree, a stevedore's labourer, late of Waterloo-place, St. George's-in-the-East.—The widow deposed that on the 23rd ult. she left her husband in the Waterloo public-house, Samuel-street, with a man named William Burt. Hearing he was lying in the hospital she went there. He said "My gossip has broken my leg." She advised him to have the man locked up, but he said, "Don't punish him; leave him to God."—Theodore Earl, manager of the public-house, deposed that, hearing a scuffle in the bar, he went out, and saw a man put his arm under the deceased's chin, and the latter then fell to the ground, ex-

claiming "My leg's broke." Deceased was sober, but witness did not take any notice of the other man's condition. The two men were quarrelling, but witness saw no blows struck.—John Connolly, a dock labourer, deposed that he heard the deceased Burt quarrelling about family matters in the Waterloo. Burt pushed the deceased, who then fell, but witness saw no blows struck.—William Burt, St. George's-court, a carman out of employment, stated that he went into the Waterloo with the deceased and his wife, and they asked him to drink. The wife then left. Witness felt aggrieved because deceased treated him very coolly, and words ensued. Deceased then rose up from his seat and went towards witness, who merely pushed him and said, "Go away, Frank." Deceased fell on the floor and complained that his leg was hurt.—Dr. Smith, house surgeon, deposed that deceased was the worse for drink when admitted, and was suffering from a fracture of the left leg. He died from pneumonia and pleurisy, and delirium tremens, accelerated by the injury.—The jury eventually returned a verdict of accidental death.

THE SHOESLACK'S MARRIAGE.—A remarkable wedding has taken place at Aston parish church, near Birmingham. A bootblack, named John Jukes, but who is familiarly known by the cognomen of "Hoppo," in consequence of a deformity of one of his pedal extremities, and who carries on his calling in the vicinity of Aston Cross, recently decided to take unto himself a wife. Having wooed and won the fair damsel, by name Mary Ann Bishop, the banns were duly published at Aston Church, and the nuptial knot was to have been tied at half-past ten o'clock in the morning. Mr. Jukes's large circle of friends included the majority of the cabmen on the stand at Aston Cross, and by these gentlemen the event was looked forward to with considerable interest. Jukes's polishing box was embellished by an announcement printed in large type that the shoe-polishing business had been temporarily suspended in consequence of Mr. Jukes having gone to get married. He had, however, not gone to get married, and when the blushing bride, with her friends, arrived at the church, "Hoppo" was nowhere to be found. Some one informed the bride that her prospective spouse, on being informed that it was his wedding morn, and that the clergyman was waiting to perform the ceremony, made use of language more forcible than polite, and asserted that he should be married when he liked, and not when the blooming parson wanted him to. He then disappeared, and the unhappy woman left the church a spinster and in tears. Her friends, however, were not going to permit this sort of thing, so some of them, notably a cabman known as "Captain," went in search of the missing bridegroom. About two o'clock he was discovered perambulating the streets of Birmingham utterly unconcerned at the trouble he had occasioned, and apparently oblivious of the fact that it was his wedding-day. As he declined to return to Aston, he was bodily lifted into a cab, and hastily driven to Aston Cross, where he was confronted with his weeping bride. With a cabman on one side and his future wife on the other he was persuaded to walk to Aston Church, where several hundred persons had assembled to witness the strange ceremony. The news that "Hoppo" was about to fulfil his promise attracted several of the cabmen with their vehicles from Aston Cross, and these arriving just as Mr. Jukes was hesitating whether or not it was advisable to tie the nuptial knot, he was gently forced into the church by the combined strength of his friends. The bride was attired in black, while the bridegroom was dressed in every boot-blacking clothes, even his face showing evidence of the want of a razor. Assembled at the altar, the clergyman commenced to unite the happy pair, and when he had reached that portion of the marriage service where the question is asked, "Will thou have this woman for thy lawful wedded wife?" Mr. Jukes answered, "Oh, it's all right; go on." But, remonstrating with the clergyman, you must say, "I will," then answered Mr. Jukes. Being asked for the ring, he replied that he had not got one; but turning to his bride he asked, "Ain't you got it?" and receiving a negative reply, a ring was borrowed from a bystander, and with this the ceremony was concluded. The next difficulty arose over the payment of the fees. Mr. Jukes being practically penniless and his wife also in the same impecunious condition, ultimately paid the fees of the marriage service, and the party left the church, the bridegroom with Messrs. Batty and Co., mineral water manufacturers, of Kingsland-road, while leading a pair of horses into the stable, with the pole of the van attached to them, turned under the archway, and taking too sharp a sweep was pinned against the wall by the pole, which caught him in the chest and killed him. The jury returned a verdict of accidental death.

Charles Richard Blanke, 6 months, son of a ship's painter, of Condor-street, Limehouse.—In accordance with the medical evidence the jury found that death was due to bronchitis. Alexander Dunn, 52, a commercial traveller, late of Goswell-terrace, Clerkenwell, died suddenly while out on a visit to some relatives at St. Merton's-place, Clerkenwell, from coma caused by compression of the brain. Verdict accordingly.

George Austin, 48, a bootmaker, of Worthing, died suddenly while out on a visit to some relatives at St. Merton's-place, Clerkenwell, from coma caused by compression of the brain.—Verdict according to the medical evidence, that death was due to a severe apoplexy, produced by a weak heart and accelerated by habits of intemperance.

Edward James Ratford, 4 months, son of a seaman, of Stainsby-road, Limehouse.

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PERSONATING SIR WILFRED LAWSON.

Defences to charges of drunkenness are usually less ingenious than that submitted by Henry Prescott, 22, late of St. Orchards-road, Plumstead, who was charged at Woolwich Police Court with being intoxicated and riotous within the precincts of the court—P.C. Baker said the prisoner and other men were in the lobby of the court on the previous afternoon, and the prisoner and another began fighting. Witness told him to desist and behave himself, when Prescott at once struck at him, and immediately after knocked down P.C. Warne, who came to quell the disturbance. Prescott was then taken into the police station and charged with being drunk, when he said, "It is impossible for me to be drunk, for I am Sir Wilfred Lawson, the great teetotaller." Mr. Kennedy told the prisoner that good order must be obtained in the police court, at all events, and sentenced him to hard labour for seven days.—The man's wife begged the magistrate to take a fine, but Mr. Kennedy said the punishment of a few days' imprisonment would be short, sharp, and salutary, while a money penalty would probably fall upon his family. He would, however, reduce the sentence to three days' imprisonment.

A FORTUNATE MAN'S TROUBLES.

The Chelmsford carman who unexpectedly came the other day into a fortune of £30,000 has started for a holiday in the south of France. From the report of a conversation with a visitor, which appears in the *Evese County Chronicle*, it would seem that Mr. Bennett has not found his windfall an unmixed blessing; for he has since been "peppered with letters" from all parts, not to speak of the nuisance of having to stop every minute in the streets to shake hands with somebody who is "so glad" to hear of his good luck. Since his departure the firm for whom he has long been accustomed to drive a van are stated to have received a mass of letters offering various services and "all kinds of advice." One of the writers—a gentleman who has graduated at one of the Universities—having heard that Mr. Bennett intends to take a holiday in the south of France, states that he is intimately acquainted with that portion of the continent, and if Mr. Bennett wishes for a thoroughly disinterested guide and counsellor, the writer would be "just the person." Another, whose letter is dated from Brighton, is of opinion that "money is the root of all evil," and expresses an earnest hope that Mr. Bennett is "not a drunkard." An anonymous communication from London says—"You will find many new friends come forward now that you are a moneyed man. I say be very careful of them. Even the clergy will visit you and try to extort money from you. . . . I am an old man of seventy-five, and know something of the world. . . . I would advise you, when your portion is arranged, to change your name and place of abode, so that you may not be traced or molested."

FATAL FIGHT IN SOUTHWARK.

Daniel Rushbrook, otherwise known as "Long Denny," 31, described as a dealer, surrendered to his bail, at Southwark Police Court, to answer the charge of causing the death of Charles Wray, a man with whom he had a fight in Frim-street, Blackfriars-road, on the night of the 15th ult. Mr. Stratwick again appeared to prosecute on behalf of the Treasury, and Mr. H. L. Sydney defended. All the facts of the case have already been reported. The only additional evidence offered was that of the inspector to whom the accused gave himself up on hearing that he was wanted for causing the death of the deceased.—Inspector Lowe stated that the prisoner came into the station and said, "I wish to give myself up for that man they say I've killed." Witness said, "Are you 'Long Denny?'" and the accused replied, "Yes." When the charge was read over to him, accused made no reply.—This being the case for the prosecution, Mr. Sydney asked that the prisoner should be discharged. He contended that there was no evidence that the blow struck by the prisoner had caused death. The deceased had provoked himself, and the prisoner had only defended himself, and one of the witnesses had stated that the deceased was so drunk that he even fell down before a blow was struck. It might be that, having regard to the overloaded state of the deceased's stomach, death resulted from the blow.—Mr. Slade said: There is evidence that the prisoner knocked deceased down, and that he never recovered consciousness. I shall commit him for trial for manslaughter.

ASSAULTING 'A SERVANT.

Much local interest was manifested at Brentford in the adjourned hearing of the case against Mrs. Lockwood, the wife of a stockbroker, of 6, Longfield-road, Ealing, and Sarah Brown, her servant, who had ill-treated and assaulted a girl named Harriet Humphreys, formerly in the first defendant's service.—Mr. Hutton, barrister, represented the Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Children; and Mr. Tatlock defended.—In the previous evidence it was alleged that the defendant had more than once hit the girl with a poker, and kept her without food for several days. The complainant had many severe bruises on her head, and was in a very disabled condition. When complainant, after endeavouring to run away, was shut up in a closet by Browne, Mrs. Lockwood was heard to say, "I'll starve you out, Harriet," or, "I'll starve you to death." Complainant had been seen licking the knives and plates, presumably from hunger.—Evidence of servants residing in the adjoining house was called to substantiate the charges.—Mr. Tatlock, for the defence, submitted that such assaults as might have been committed were in the shape of allowable chastisement.—Mrs. Lockwood denied that she had overstruck the complainant beyond knocking her arm with a brush when she was careless in sweeping. She admitted that she was charged with a similar offence at Hammersmith in 1883, and paid £20 compensation to settle the case.—The bench now found the assaults proved in some cases, but attached no credence to the story of starvation. They imposed a fine of £5, with full costs, on Mrs. Lockwood; and Browne, who pleaded guilty to some assaults, was fined 4s.—The defendants were hooted when the case was over, and had to seek the protection of the police.

THE LONDON COUNTY COUNCIL AND THE MUSIC HALLS.

At a meeting of the London County Council, Sir John Lubbock presiding, Sir Walter de Souza claimed privilege at the commencement of the business to refer to the action of Mr. Charrington in connection with the inspection of music halls, as disclosed at the recent sitting of the council for the granting of music and dancing licences. He wished to ask Mr. Charrington to explain how as a member of the theatres committee, he disregarded the rule that the official inspectors were to obey the orders of the committee, and not of individual members, by ordering Mr. Barclay, an inspector, to inspect one or more music halls. He said that unfortunately Mr. Charrington was not present, and asked the chairman how he should proceed. He was only acting upon public grounds, and assured the council he had no personal motive in putting the question. The chairman replied that it would be more in accordance with the bye-laws if he put his question to the chairman of the theatres committee, to be answered in due course.

EXTRAORDINARY ATTEMPTED SUICIDE BY AN ARTIST.

A Leicester artist, named Frederick Wilford, has attempted to commit suicide under extraordinary circumstances. It appears that he went to a field near the borough, filled his mouth with gunpowder, and ignited it, under the impression that it would blow out his brains. A passing labourer seeing the fire, and hearing no report, established a search, and found the man lying in a pool of blood and bleeding profusely. He confessed what he had done, and was removed to the infirmary, where he lies in agony, and in a precarious condition owing to injuries to the mouth and neck.

The St. Pancras Vestry has adopted a recommendation allowing automatic delivery machines for supplying postage stamps and postcards to be placed in the streets.

THE LICENSING OF THE LONDON MUSIC HALLS.

The Licensing Committee of the London County Council sat on Wednesday at the Sessions House, Newington Causeway, to consider applications for the renewal of licences for music, dancing, and stage plays in halls south of the Thames: Mr. Fardell presided.

THE CANTERBURY.

The application of Mr. George Adner Payne for a renewal of the licence for music and dancing in the Canterbury Music Hall, Westminster Bridge-road, was supported by Mr. Grain.—Mr. Davis, addressing the applicant, called his attention to a song sung in the hall on Monday, the 3d of February, the chorus of which he considered objectionable. He asked did the applicant consider it a decent song?—Applicant replied that he had no knowledge of it.—Mr. Davis: What is your opinion of it?—Applicant: It is difficult to give an opinion of a song you have not heard. It might have been done by a deputy who only served for one night when a member of the company could not appear. Mr. G. W. Russell: Are these words you would allow to be repeated by regular performers?—Applicant: No; they don't come up to my idea.—Mr. Grain: We'll undertake this year not to sing about kissing a girl in the dark.—Mr. Davis: It was not a kiss; it was something worse than that.—Mr. Grain: I don't say so.—Mr. Davis: Mr. Grin is implied.—Mr. George W. Russell: After what has fallen from the learned counsel we should make it clear that, notwithstanding the attempts to minimise it, we do not recognise that line as forming part of a public entertainment, and that it does not come up to the standard of propriety we wish.—The Applicant: We have sixteen artists every week, and we should not be charged with one line done by a deputy. The Chairman: The committee will recommend the council to grant the license.

OTHER LICENSEES.

Mr. McDougall raised an objection to the renewal of the license for the Eaglan Music Hall, Southwark. He elicited from Mr. Isaacs, the proprietor, that, if possible, he intended to sell the place and Mr. McDougall seemed to think that, in these circumstances, the license was only applied for to increase the value of the property.—Mr. Lowe, the counsel, admitted that was the case, and pointed out that naturally it would be better to dispose of the property as a going concern.—Major Probyn cut matters short by proposing that the license be granted, and had occurred in a house immediately after it was put into a good sanitary condition.—Sir George Harris said that diphtheria in Paddington was nothing; it had prevailed in that parish and Kensington during the last ten years. It had been said that the epidemic spread from Paddington to Kensington, but there was not a title of evidence to support that statement. It was difficult to say where or when diphtheria originated. It was reported to the County Council that at a place to which manure had been carted from a metropolitan parish an outbreak of diphtheria had ensued, and it was ascertained that the gorm of the disease was present in the manure.—Mr. H. H. Collins pointed out that medical men had no absolute terminology to describe the disease known to some as "diphtheria." Some doctors described it as "croup" and others as "tonsillitis."—The motion was adopted.

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Daniel Rushbrook, otherwise known as "Long Denny," 31, described as a dealer, surrendered to his bail, at Southwark Police Court, to answer the charge of causing the death of Charles Wray, a man with whom he had a fight in Frim-street, Blackfriars-road, on the night of the 15th ult. Mr. Stratwick again appeared to prosecute on behalf of the Treasury, and Mr. H. L. Sydney defended. All the facts of the case have already been reported. The only additional evidence offered was that of the inspector to whom the accused gave himself up on hearing that he was wanted for causing the death of the deceased.—Inspector Lowe stated that the prisoner came into the station and said, "I wish to give myself up for that man they say I've killed." Witness said, "Are you 'Long Denny?" and the accused replied, "Yes." When the charge was read over to him, accused made no reply.—This being the case for the prosecution, Mr. Sydney asked that the prisoner should be discharged. He contended that there was no evidence that the blow struck by the prisoner had caused death. The deceased had provoked himself, and the prisoner had only defended himself, and one of the witnesses had stated that the deceased was so drunk that he even fell down before a blow was struck. It might be that, having regard to the overloaded state of the deceased's stomach, death resulted from the blow.—Mr. Slade said: There is evidence that the prisoner knocked deceased down, and that he never recovered consciousness. I shall commit him for trial for manslaughter.

DWELLINGS OF THE POOR.

A meeting of the Mansion House Council on the Dwellings of the Poor, of which the Lord Mayor is president, was held on Wednesday in the Long Parlor. Mr. John Hamer (hon. soc.) read the report of the work for the month, which shewed that several hundred cases had been dealt with in Hammersmith, Finsbury, Kensington, and Shoreditch. The date of the inquiry into Shoreditch had not yet been fixed by the Home Office. Numerous offers of aid in connection with the inquiry had been received from influential residents in the district. A representation had been made to the Local Government Board as to the persistent neglect of the authorities for Fulham in dealing with insanitary conditions frequently brought to their notice. A new committee had been started in connection with a university settlement in Camberwell.

Various points of law affecting the working of the new Act were discussed, and it was reported that a prosecution had been successfully initiated under it. It was resolved to prepare a proper synopsis of the Housing of the Working Classes Act, and to disseminate leaflets setting forth its various provisions in the most effective and intelligible form. Arrangements were also made for a series of lectures to be delivered throughout the metropolis.

A STRANGE LAW.

At the Enfield Police Court, Nimsed, Bartons, of Fore-street, Upper Edmonton, was summoned at the instance of the commissioners of inland revenue for keeping a carriage without having a license in force.—An inland revenue officer stated he saw defendant driving in a cart bearing his name and address upon one of the shafts. There were a woman and a child in the vehicle beside defendant, and the conveyance was being driven from Enfield Highway towards Waltham. Witness made inquiries, and found that there was no license in force in respect of the cart.—Defendant: I have taken out a license since.—Mr. Bowles (chairman of the bench): Even if you had had a license when the officer saw you driving, you had no right to have a female and child with you.—Defendant: The female is my wife, and the child is ours.—Mr. Bowles: That don't matter. You must not have anything in your cart but your trade goods.—Defendant: Not even my wife?—Mr. Bowles: No.—Defendant: I was going to Waltham Market to sell things, and took my wife with me to mind the pony. What harm is there in that?—Mr. Bowles: Well, it is opposed to the law. A tradesman is only allowed to convey the goods in which he deals in his cart.—Defendant: Well, I always understood that a man and his wife were one, and that there could be no harm in their riding out together.—Mr. Bowles: In this instance the law will not permit it. You must not drive your wife or children about in your trade cart. You can only go with a person to deliver your goods.—Defendant: It seems a strange law.—Mr. Bowles: We cannot help that. You have broken it, and must pay £2, and costs, or go to prison.—The money was paid.

THE LONDON COUNTY COUNCIL AND THE MUSIC HALLS.

At a meeting of the London County Council, Sir John Lubbock presiding, Sir Walter de Souza claimed privilege at the commencement of the business to refer to the action of Mr. Charrington in connection with the inspection of music halls, as disclosed at the recent sitting of the council for the granting of music and dancing licences. He wished to ask Mr. Charrington to explain how as a member of the theatres committee, he disregarded the rule that the official inspectors were to obey the orders of the committee, and not of individual members, by ordering Mr. Barclay, an inspector, to inspect one or more music halls. He said that unfortunately Mr. Charrington was not present, and asked the chairman how he should proceed. He was only acting upon public grounds, and assured the council he had no personal motive in putting the question. The chairman replied that it would be more in accordance with the bye-laws if he put his question to the chairman of the theatres committee, to be answered in due course.

EXTRAORDINARY ATTEMPTED SUICIDE BY AN ARTIST.

A Leicester artist, named Frederick Wilford, has attempted to commit suicide under extraordinary circumstances. It appears that he went to a field near the borough, filled his mouth with gunpowder, and ignited it, under the impression that it would blow out his brains. A passing labourer seeing the fire, and hearing no report, established a search, and found the man lying in a pool of blood and bleeding profusely. He confessed what he had done, and was removed to the infirmary, where he lies in agony, and in a precarious condition owing to injuries to the mouth and neck.

CONFESSON OF MURDER AT BOW-STREET.

Walter Hassell, who described himself as a clerk, was charged before Mr. Vaughan, at Bow-street, on Thursday, on his confession of the murder of a private in the King's Royal Rifle Corps named Downey. Det.-Insp. Conquest said that in company with Sergeant North he saw the prisoner that morning on his release from Millbank Prison, and said to him, "We are police officers, and are going to arrest you in consequence of a statement you have made." After receiving the usual caution, he adhered to what he had stated. In his confession, he described himself as a late private of the 4th Battalion King's Royal Rifle Corps and now of the 1st Class Army Reserve. He stated that early in March, 1888, when stationed at Camp Umballa, India, he murdered Private Downey by cutting his throat with a razor. It was about 9.45 p.m., after tea, and having obtained permission to go outside, the prisoner went and sat himself behind some trees on the main road leading to the Military Gymnasium. Knowing that Lance-corporal Bacon, against whom he had a spite, would have to pass that way, the prisoner took with him a large stick and a razor. While he was hiding a soldier came along, and the prisoner rushed out and hit him down with the stick. He then drew the razor across his throat. After committing the deed the prisoner went back to camp, first hiding the razor in a hollow tree. Shortly afterwards he had been found on the main road with his throat cut. It was believed that some native had committed the murder. As he had no ill-feeling against the murdered man nor one suspected the prisoner of the deed, and of course he kept quiet. In March, 1888, he left the army with a very indifferent character, in consequence of which he had been unable to obtain employment. The terrible deed he had committed had continually preyed upon his mind, and he had several times thought of giving himself up to justice. He had not the courage to do so. 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'THE PEOPLE'

MIXTURE.

Jay Gould's income is now estimated at £30,000,000ols. a year.

There are 334 livings in the Church of England worth over £1,000 a year.

The duty on imported cattle in France is less than 3sfr. a head.

Parliament, it is understood, will meet on the 25th proximo.

Ladies' bonnets are flatter than ever on the hair.

Now that the larger portion of the city of Colon has been burnt, what is left of it has been appropriately dubbed semi-Colon.

Very few people are probably aware that blanched dandelion leaves make an excellent winter salad.

Patent fringes, warranted to be made up of a child's curly hair, are quoted at £1 to £2 by Boston hairdressers.

Mr. Phimlani anticipates that the Load Line Bill, which comes into operation in December, will save 450 lives yearly.

Jean Charlet, a boy aged 11, has succeeded in ascending Mont Blanc.

A workman, repairing a roof at New Orleans, touched an electric light wire containing 2,000 volts, and was instantly killed.

"Sir William Harcourt," says a society gossip, "rarely takes physical exercise. Certainly no one would take the burly knight for an athlete."

Jules Verne, who is already the author of twenty-four novels, says that he hopes to write as many more before he finally lays down his pen.

Over 3,000,000,000 envelopes are manufactured in this country annually, a statement that will readily be believed by the man who fails to pay his tailor's bills promptly.

Mr. W. H. Smith is now staying at Cannes, where he has arrived on his homeward journey. The right hon. gentleman will resume his official duties in Downing-street at an early date.

Mr. Gladstone, in a letter to the secretary of the Edinburgh Trades Council, states that when he visits West Calder he hopes to have an opportunity of addressing the miners, and that he will certainly be desirous to introduce remarks on the labour question.

A singular accident occurred to a goods train which was being shunted on Thursday at the Rotherham forge and rolling mills. In passing over a swing bridge which crosses the canal, three unladen wagons left the metals and fell into the water.

A portrait model of Birchall, the Benwell murderer (executed by Mr. John Tussaud), has now been added to the Chamber of Horrors at Madame Tussaud's Exhibition. The portrait is taken from reliable photographs and sketches, and is considered to be a good representative of the original.

Benjamin Thibierge, a farmer living at Orleans-street, New York, has been murdered by a tramp. The farmer and his wife had given the murderer shelter in their house. The farmer's wife screamed and aroused the neighbours, who captured the murderer.

So much controversy has recently arisen with regard to the prospects of distress in Ireland during the coming winter, that the proprietors of the *Daily Graphic* have commissioned Mr. T. W. Russell, M.P., to make a tour through the affected districts and write a series of letters giving a straightforward, impartial account of the actual condition of the country. Mr. Russell will be accompanied by Mr. Staniland, R.I., who will illustrate the tour.

The late Lady Brassey used to tell a tale of how in one year she took the trouble to have a record kept of the amounts asked of her and Lord Brassey, and the total represented £1,500,000. Curious as it may seem with such a large clientele, she made it a practice of replying to every letter she received. Few of those favoured by the begging-letter writers' fraternity are probably so courteous.

Lord Wolseley, in taking up the command of the troops in Ireland, has been directed to give special attention to the carrying out of the Government's barrack scheme in that part of the United Kingdom. In Belfast, a sum of over £100,000 is being expended in new barracks, and altogether the amount allotted for barrack building in Ireland is about £500,000.

Mr. E. Stanhope, speaking at Horncastle, rebuked Mr. Morley for interfering with the prejudice of a fair trial at Tipperary. Whilst denying that a famine was threatened in Ireland, he admitted that distress would result in some districts from the failure of the potato crop, but claimed that the Government were doing their best to relieve the distress.

Sir M. Hicks Beach, speaking at Gloucester, observed that he was glad to say their political health was reasonably satisfactory. Referring to the prosecution in Tipperary, he said the charges that had been brought against those who directed the police, or against the police themselves, would be thoroughly investigated by the Irish Government, and Mr. Hallinan would be fully prepared to justify any action he might have thought it right to take.

This is how the dothings at Limerick. Two young Indian aristocrats became tired of their wives' society, and agreed to exchange their respective spouses. The custom is an old one, and certain very elaborate public ceremonies have to be performed before the exchange is completed. The two wives upon this occasion seemed quite agreeable to change husbands, and appeared to regard the affair as a very ordinary and trifling incident.

Mr. Morley, speaking in North Wiltsire, said the power of the landlords, politically, morally, and materially, had gone, and in the effort to raise a new order on a fresh basis the years spent in coercion had been so much time wasted. He had been severely criticised because of his visit to Tipperary, but he asked whether, because a man had been six months a minister, he was henceforth to go to Ireland gagged and blindfolded.

The receipts on account of revenue from the 1st of April, when there was a balance of £45,225,25, to the 4th inst., were £49,184,45, against £39,214,157 in the corresponding period of the preceding financial year, which began with a balance of £25,502,02. The net expenditure was £24,669,03, against £23,131,10 to the same date in the previous year. The Treasury balances on the 4th inst. amounted to £2,014,674, and at the same date in 1888 to £2,000,422.

John William Drant and Edmund Schofield were charged at the North London Police Court with assaulting themselves from duty as metropolitan police constables on the night of the 5th of September. Prisoners were received in custody from the Newark police. They stated that they had gone to Nottingham, Gresford, and admitted that they had been "silly young fools." It was stated that they would not be retained in the force. A fine of £50. was imposed in each case, with the alternative of fourteen days' imprisonment.

Since the death of Prince Albert, it is said that the Queen never wears any ornaments except two small bracelets, in each of which is the setting for a portrait. In the bracelet for the right arm is the likeness of the Prince Consort, and in the left that of her Majesty's youngest great-grandchild. For some time Princess Feodora of Meiningen held the place of honour; then the little son of the Emperor of Germany had their turn. Now it is the

Greek prince, the infant son of Princess Sophie, whose picture has been chosen.

It is expected that her Majesty will leave Balmoral for Windsor on November 20th.

The Brazilian Government has decreed that from November 13th all import duties are to be paid in gold. This will bring eleven millions sterling annually into the treasury.

The memorial-stones of the new buildings of the Printers' Almshouses at Wood Green will be laid by the Baroness Burdett-Coutts and Mrs. W. H. Collingridge on the 18th inst.

London milk has just now a bad notoriety. Of the samples examined last year by the Local Government Board inspectors 21 per cent. were found to be adulterated.

Last year the Post Office issued 2,000,000 inland money orders, of a total value of £23,000,000; and it issued 41,712,000 postal orders, of a total value of £17,700,000.

The county which contained the largest proportionate number of paupers last year was Dorset. In it no fewer than 463 out of every 1,000 of the population were in receipt of relief on the 1st of January last.

A fire has occurred at Fletcher's lace factory, Long Eaton, and the establishment was gutted. The damage is estimated at £30,000. About ninety lace machines were destroyed, and many hands are thrown out of work.

It is announced that the Home Office has approved of the appointment of Captain George Henry Dean, late 12th Lancers, to be chief constable of the metropolitan police, in succession to the late Captain Knollys.

The Dominion Department of Agriculture has shipped to England samples of Canadian-grown barley for the Brewers and Malsters' Exhibition, which opens in London on the 20th inst.

As a heavily-laden coal train was descending a gradient on a branch of the Great Western Railway, near Brymenin Station, Bridgend, a wagon axle broke, resulting in several trucks being overturned. Eleven wagons were smashed, but nobody was injured.

Man-eating tigers have made a sudden irruption on the Korncha and Lalangam ghaties in the Chanda district of India. Ten persons have been killed in a fortnight, besides a little child, carried off by a tiger while sleeping between its father and mother.

The down mail from Rangoon went off the rails on Monday night about fifty-five miles from Rangoon. The engine and four tons of carriages ran off the line. About twenty passengers were injured and one was killed. The line had been tampered with.

During a discussion at the St. Pancras Vestry on the estimates of the rates required for the half-year ending Lady Day next, Mr. F. W. Browne stated that the parish was already in debt to the amount of a quarter of a million sterling, or £1 per head for every man, woman, and child of the population.

The weather this autumn at Balmoral has been unusually mild, the thermometer having seldom fallen below 56deg., even at night.

Strawberries grown in the open air were, within the last three weeks, supplied to the royal table, and the gardens are still bright with flowers.

Mr. Stanley has written to the town clerk of Cardiff, intimating that he will soon be able to visit Cardiff before he goes to America. He says he will only have eleven days in England before sailing for America. Arrangements had been made for a reception and for the presentation to Mr. Stanley of the freedom of the borough.

At a meeting of the Edinburgh Town Council it was resolved to make application to the Board of Trade for a provisional order in favour of the town council as local authority under the Electric Lighting Act, and that the applications by four companies for consent to apply for provisional orders be refused.

The Metropolitan Public Gardens Association has ordered £100 a-piece to twenty metropolitan vestries and district boards to be expended in planting plane trees in suitable places.

Two serious railway collisions are reported from Italy. At Vignola, near Novara, a collision occurred between two trains, by which one person was killed, and eight others, including the conductor, were injured. Another serious collision, resulting in injuries to seventeen persons, is reported from San Severo.

"It," says Mr. Walter Long, "Lord Spencer is correct in his assertion that Home Rule only means local government for Ireland, the Government are ready to enter upon the consideration of a good scheme of local government, and are ready to give Ireland the freest possible hand in the management of her own affairs."

The return of metropolitan pauperism for the fourth week of September shows that the total number of paupers on the last day of that period was 88,171, including 53,270 indoor and 32,874 outdoor, as against 92,012, 91,600, and 90,935 in the corresponding periods of 1889, 1888, and 1887. The number of vagrants relieved was 1,014-79 men, 203 women, and 27 children.

The London County Council has passed the following resolution: "That it be referred to the Local Government and Taxation Committee to consider and report how the council can best acquire the power to control and regulate the business of advertising on hoardings in London, by the granting of licences, the proceeds of which should go in relief of the county rates."

The Board of Trade returns for last month show an increase in imports of £2,144,703, and an increase in exports of £3,072,062, compared with the corresponding month of last year. For nine months there has been a decrease in the imports of £2,477,191, and an increase in the exports of £1,821,254, compared with the corresponding period of last year.

Instructions have been given by the War Office authorities for two submarine mines to be stationed near Sheerness Fort, for the protection of the River Thames. Extensive alterations are being made at Grain Fort, at the entrance to the Thames; and it is proposed to strengthen the armament by mounting two 10-in. 22-ton breech-loading guns in place of two of the old muzzle-loaders.

A landslip of a quarter of a mile in length has taken place at Saint Pierre, on the river Du Sud, Canada, and a house belonging to a farmer named Glynnon and some barns were swept into the river. A family of eleven persons were sleeping in the house at the time of the catastrophe. The mother was killed and the father seriously injured, but the remainder of the family escaped without hurt.

The Queen's stag-hounds commenced forest hunting on Tuesday. The meet was at the Royal Hotel, Ascot, where a large field assembled. The deer was let loose shortly after 10, and went away through Windsor Forest. Forest hunting will be continued every Tuesday and Friday during this month, and the regular hunting season will commence November 4th.

While playing polo the other day at Bombay, Captain Cox, side-de-camp to Lord Harris, met with a nasty accident. While racing across the ground his pony stumbled and fell, throwing Captain Cox violently to the ground, head foremost. He was picked up insensible and driven home, where he was restored to consciousness some time afterwards. Captain Cox had to keep to his bed for some days.

At a meeting of the Commissioners of Sewers it was decided to advertise inviting tenders for lighting the western district of the City by electricity on similar conditions to those arranged for the east and central districts, but intimating that should any deviation from such conditions, favourable to the commissioners, be desired by the companies tendering such deviation must be specially set forth.

An unfortunate accident occurred at the Westminster Police Court with bogging. An officer saw the boy receive corporal punishment from ladies, and, knowing that he was neglected, he locked him up. On him he found a bank book, the entries in which showed that the lad had made three deposits that day. In answer to the magistrate, the accused said he had begun to save on Monday. His mother described him as a good and saving boy. He was remanded to the workhouse to receive the attention of an officer from the Industrial School Board.

An accident, whereby one person was killed and two others were injured, occurred on Tuesday evening in the Old Kent-road. Near the canal bridge the splinter-bar of the fore carriage of a brewer's dray became detached, thus causing the horse to bolt with the shafts. The driver, who had hold of the reins, was jerked off his seat on to the ground, and was severely injured on the head. At the Lord Nelson the runaway horse knocked two children down, killing one of them. The deceased was a little boy named James

Saunders, son of one of the Old Kent-road bus conductors.

There were last week nine cases of suicide in London.

There were 475 railway servants killed and 3,025 injured last year.

Owen's College, at Manchester, has been opened seventeen years.

There were 2,433 births and 1,413 deaths in the metropolis last week.

Different forms of violence were responsible for sixty-one deaths in London last week.

The average balance due to each depositor in the Post Office Savings Bank is stated to be £3,195.6d.

There were last week fifty-two deaths in the metropolis attributed to accident or negligence.

The population of England in the middle of 1888 was estimated at 23,623,894, and a year later at 23,015,613.

We Londoners consume 30,000,000 gallons of milk—or what is sold as milk—per annum, and pay £50,000 for it.

The Amalgamated Society of Railway Servants has 33,000 members, an income of £17,000, and over £80,000 invested.

The cost of relieving the poor in England and Wales fell from £8,440,821 at Lady Day, 1888, to £8,366,477 at Lady Day, 1889.

The Cork Unionists have struck 4,000 Nationalists, including three M.P.'s, off the list.

The London coroners have of late failed to note the fatal evil of overlaying. Last week ten infants were suffocated in this way.

During the eight years from 1870 to 1886 the colonies paid our authors less than £1,000 a year in respect of the copyright of their works.

Mr. Trigg, a laundress, of New Park-road, Brixton Hill, has committed suicide by drowning herself in the horses trough opposite Streatham Hill station.

The Lord Mayor will lay the foundation-stone of the new fruit and vegetable market in Farringdon-street, on Wednesday, October 20th, at noon.

At Glasgow, Bernard Cohen, aged 16 years, who had been twice previously convicted, was sentenced to six months' imprisonment for garroting a tailor on the Albert Bridge and robbing him of a sum of money.

A Leeds photographer, named Julian Wilson, has been sentenced to three months' imprisonment, without the option of a fine, for exposing for sale indecent French photographs.

As a result of the Welsh services which have been held for some time in the Church of All Saints, Margaret-street, on Sunday afternoons, commodious premises have been secured in Broad-street, Regent-street, as a "hostel" for Welsh girls employed in London.

Two serious railway collisions are reported from Italy. At Vignola, near Novara, a collision occurred between two trains, by which one person was killed, and eight others, including the conductor, were injured. Another serious collision, resulting in injuries to seventeen persons, is reported from San Severo.

At the Croydon Quarter Sessions on Thursday there was only one prisoner for trial, and the recorder (Mr. Glenie) said he thought the time had now arrived when the law should be altered. In this instance twenty-three gentlemen had been called away from their businesses and duties for the purpose of considering whether or not one prisoner should stand trial.

The Metropolitan Police returns for last month show an increase in imports of £2,144,703, and an increase in exports of £3,072,062, compared with the corresponding month of last year.

For nine months there has been a decrease in the imports of £2,477,191, and an increase in the exports of £1,821,254, compared with the corresponding period of last year.

The Fawcett Association is a combination of sorting clerks of all classes in the postal service. Inaugurated in February, 1889, it embraces in London a membership of 2,500, of a possible 3,000 or thereabouts. It was formed to effect the carrying out of the Fawcett scheme of 1881.

Hand-shaking, as at present practised, is described by a society paper as a very intricate operation—it goes up and down, takes one sweep round, chases to the right and left, executes the grape-vine lock, then the fingers are untwisted, and the shakers subside into restful and much-needed calm.

The reference made by Mr. Ritchie in his annual report to spirits is of a grimly satirical kind. He tells us that spirits are adulterated more than anything else, but he complacently adds that it is axiomatic almost invariably that adulteration almost invariably consists of dilution with water, and therefore precludes conductus to temperance.

It is now pretty well known that Miss Menie Muriel Dowie, the young lady who won distinction by crossing the Carpathian Mountains with only a peasant for a guide, is a granddaughter of the late Dr. Robert Chambers, the now acknowledged author of "The Vestiges of Creation," and one of the founders of the great publishing firm.

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Some thirsty souls will do anything for a glass of beer. In a recent police raid in Boston it was found that a pipe communicating with casks of beer and spirits had been laid along beneath a whole block of houses in order to divert suspicion from the position of the liquor. Unfortunately one unwary bacchanalian was caught with his lips glued to the mouth of a whisky pipe.

Quite a sensation has been caused at Sarajevo by the conversion to Christianity of a young Turkish woman, Nasra Delachovic. The authorities, knowing the indignation which would be excited among the Musulman population, strenuously opposed the carrying out of the ceremony, but in vain.

VOLUNTEER GOSSIP.

[Communications intended for this column should be received at the office not later than 6 p.m. on Saturday.]

At this period of the year, when all that is doing in Volunteer circles consists in whipping up the lard, it is quite refreshing to find that the adjutant-general's yearly going to visit every Volunteer corps in the country. Not being subject to hallucinations, I am somewhat sceptical as to the accuracy of this statement, but from all one can gather it is evident the Secretary of State for War and the Government, who intend to trot out a considerable portion of the force during the summer months of 1891. It is currently reported that Sir Edward Hallier, who has great faith in our branch of the service, believes in the putting in force of a favourite scheme of experimental mobilisation. There have been many others but the difficulty hitherto has lain in the expense. Perhaps, by the aid of a good swinging Budget, the Chancellor of the Exchequer may, next year, see his way clear to provide for the necessary expense. That should be the main factor to motivate the Volunteers is acknowledged by every military man.

But, after all, it is not so much the assemblage of a certain number at a given point that is desired as the test of how these men can be fed and housed. With an army on the march, there would be no room for such a scheme. But under ordinary conditions Volunteers would most likely be embodied weeks before an enemy attempted to land. How are they to be fed and provided for in the meantime? That, I venture to think, is one of the problems which can only be solved by experimental mobilisation.

That reminds me: What part are the Volunteers to take in the defence of the new works, which, it is reported, are to be constructed south of London, and of which we have seen so much of late? At present, they are only used in certain positions, which they are to occupy in the event of threatened invasion; but would it not be better now, by means of experimental mobilisation, to test, not only what positions could be occupied, but from what sources all the necessary supplies could be successfully drawn?

It is possible that certain London commanding officers have been in the habit of allowing themselves to be called "Volunteers." If so, however, the regulations may be on this point, the practice can hardly have been contemplated by the War Office. A contemporary holds that these parades often lead to drunkenness and other irregularities, but assuredly though this remark may be applicable to certain regiments, it does not apply to the London district. Formerly there was a certain degree of levity, tinged perhaps with a little dissipation after the parade was dismissed, but nowadays the men take the first train they can catch after service in order to get home to dinner, and there is very little leading about public-houses to be seen.

However willing the corporation may be to grant a place for the use of the volunteers, the loss of £200 from each regiment, it is to be regretted that other regiments have not been incorporated in the scheme. The City is rich enough to provide good headquarters for each of its corps, some of which have already expended large sums of money on building, and should be allowed to adapt to the use for which they were built. Must be borne in mind that very few members of City corps reside in London, and that it is absolutely necessary they should have good drill grounds within a very short distance of their places of business.

"There were many competitions at the Military Exhibition last week, which were hardly worthy of the highest efforts of men who can do something better than run three-legged races or drive wheelbarrows-blithely," remarks a well-known writer, "and I am very much inclined to agree with him. For my own part, I would rather, whenever Volunteers are trotted out, they should perform military work only. Probably the public also would prefer seeing what men can do in their own profession than witness sports which should be confined to regimental headquarters and of a purely local character.

OUTRAGE IN SOMERSET. A dastardly attempt to wreck a shop and dwelling-house was discovered at Templecombe, Somerset, the other morning. The house is occupied by a man named Case, who on going to his bakery noticed, after he had lighted the fire, a piece of string communicating with the chimney. He pulled it, and drew forth from the chimney a parcel, which, on being opened, was found to contain 3lb. of rock-blasting powder. The packet was quite warm, and had it been allowed to remain a few minutes longer the powder must have ignited and a disastrous explosion resulted. The inmates numbered five persons, and lived in the house. It is expected that a man will shortly be arrested, he having purchased 3lb. of rock-blasting powder at an ironmonger's in a neighbouring town on Monday.

A MEAN THIEF. An elderly woman, named Louisa Hines, was re-examined, at Wansorth Police Court, on the charge of stealing £2 10s. from Alfred William Giles, a little boy, living with his parents, in Crichton-street, Battersby. The boy had been sent with the money to pay a bill, and he was accosted by the prisoner, who induced him to give her the money under a promise that she would take care of it, and accompany him. As soon as she obtained possession of the money she left him, and was not seen again until she was given into custody. The prisoner declared her innocence, repeating the declaration again and again, looking up at the ceiling and clasping her hands in front of her. Mr. Plowden sentenced her to three months' hard labour, and she fell on the floor in a shambles.

GAMBLING IN PARIS. The Paris detectives entered an office in the Porte Saint-Denis district—where "Pari-mutuels" were effected. Two women employed in the establishment made a bold stand against the police, tore up the betting-books and registers, and flung the money, which they had received from persons of sporting proclivities, through a window. Every movable object in the shop was then confiscated, according to law.

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SCHOOLBOY DUELLIST. A Berlin correspondent states that the Minister of Public Instruction has just sent a circular note to the school authorities of the provinces which confirms the newspaper statements of a duel between two pupils of a grammar school. The two boys fought with pistols on account of a petty quarrel. Each fired three times at a distance of twelve paces. Both duellists and seconds were expelled from the school, and the Minister has instructed the school authorities to proceed with the strictest severity in similar cases, and to represent to the boys the evils of duelling.

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